## THE LONDON LITERARY GAZETTE;

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## SATURDAY, MARCH 8, 1834.

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## REVIEW OF NEW BOOKS.

History of the Revolution in England in 1688. By the late Right Hon. Sir J. Mackintosh. ny the late Right Holl. Sir J. Mackintosh. To which is prefixed, a Notice of his Life, Writings, and Speeches. 4to. London, 1834. Longman and Co.; Taylor.

BEGUN eleven years ago (1822), and left not quite finished at his death, we are at length gra-tified by the appearance of this long-looked-for work from the pen of Sir James Mackintosh. Highly gifted by nature, deeply read, and singularly accomplished, the view of one of the most memorable epochs in English history could not have been undertaken by any man of a capacity to do it justice in every respect, superior to this eminent individual. Feeling this, and aware that no opinion ought to be ventured upon the general character of so important a production, without the preparation of a much more deliberate study than we have had time to bestow upon it, in every part, we must beg our readers to consider the present to be one of those cases, when, in a periodical like ours, we must necessarily sacrifice a portion of mature judgment to the desire of laying before them the earliest intelligence, respecting what is of paramount interest in our literature. With this brief preamble we shall at once proceed to our specific and agreeable duty.

The volume opens with a concise glance at

the position of public affairs on the accession of James II.—to our mind a piece of just, tem-perate, beautiful, and philosophical writing.

It follows :

"Though a struggle with calamity strengthens and elevates the mind, the necessity of passive submission to long adversity is rather likely to weaken and subdue it: great misfortunes disturb the understanding perhaps as much as great success; and extraordinary vicissitudes often produce the opposite vices of rashness and fear-fulness, by inspiring a disposition to trust too much to fortune, and to yield to it too soon. Few men experienced more sudden changes of fortune than James II.; but it was unfortunate for his character that he never owed his prosperity, and not always his adversity, to himself. The affairs of his family seemed to be at the lowest ebb a few months before their triumphant restoration. Four years before the death of his brother, it appeared probable that he would be excluded from the succession to the crown; and his friends seemed to have no other means of averting that doom, than by proposing such limitations of the royal prerogative as would have reduced the government to a merely nominal monarchy. But the dis-solutions by which Charles had safely and sucsolutions by which Charles had salely and suc-cessfully punished the independence of his last parliament, the destruction of some of his most formidable opponents, and the general discou-ragement of their adherents, paved the way for his peaceable, and even popular, succession;

the defeat of the revolts of Monmouth and Argyle appeared to have fixed his throne on im-movable foundations; and he was then placed in circumstances more favourable than those of any of his predecessors to the extension of his power, or, if such had been his purpose, to the undisturbed exercise of his constitutional authority. The friends of liberty, dispirited by events which all, in a greater or less degree, brought discredit upon their cause, were confounded with unsuccessful conspirators and defeated rebels: they seemed to be at the mercy of a prince, who, with reason, considered them as the irrecon-cilable enemies of his designs. The zealous partisans of monarchy believed themselves on the eve of reaping the fruits of a contest of fifty years' duration, under a monarch of mature experience, of tried personal courage, who possessed a knowledge of men, and a capacity as well as an inclination for business; whose constancy, intrepidity, and sternness, were likely to establish their political principles; and from whose prudence, as well as gratitude and good faith, they were willing to hope that he would not disturb the security of their religion. The turbulence of the preceding times had more than usually disposed men of pacific temper to support an established government. The multitude, pleased with a new reign, generally disposed to admire vigour and to look with complacency on success, shewed many symptoms of that propensity which is natural to them, or rather to mankind-to carry their applauses to the side of fortune, and to imbibe the warmest passions of a victorious party. The strength of the Tories in a parliament assembled in such a temper of the nation, was aided by a numerous reinforcement of members of low condition and subservient character, whom the forfeiture of the charters of towns enabled the court to pour into the house of commons. In Scotland the prevalent party had ruled with such bar-barity, that the absolute power of the king seemed to be their only shield against the re-sentment of their countrymen. The Irish nation, devotedly attached to a sovereign of their own oppressed religion, offered inexhaustible means of forming a brave and enthusiastic army, ready to quell revolts in every part of his do-minions. His revenue was ampler than that of any former king of England; a disciplined army of about twenty thousand men was, for the first time, established during peace in this island, and a formidable fleet was a more than ordinarily powerful weapon in the hands of a prince whose skill and valour in maritime war had endeared him to the seamen, and recom-mended him to the people. The condition of foreign affairs was equally favourable to the

king."
History teaches by example; yet who can help being forcibly struck by the surprising coincidence between the preceding statement and what has again occurred in a neighbouring

the Stuarts in England towards the end of the seventeenth century; and, passing from James II. to Charles X., we may truly say, mutato nomine de te Historia narratur!

Louis XVI., like Charles I., one of the most amiable and virtuous monarchs of his race, was savagely brought to the block. To each an iron despotism succeeded, and a Napoleon and a Cromwell rose to supreme power, both maintaining at a high pitch the military and na-tional renown of their respective countries. The restoration of the expatriated heirs to the crown ensued; and Louis XVIII. and Charles II. reigned in luxury and quiet to the close of their lives. To them succeeded, in the regular and legitimate course, a Charles X. and a James II., bigots, proselytisers, determined opponents to the spirit of their times, obstinate and unbending. After a few years, and very brief struggles, more like riots than revolutions, they were driven from their thrones, expelled from their dominions and their near relatives, Louis Philippe of Orleans, and William of Nassau, elevated to their vacant places, with the recognition of many constitutional principles and needful reforms. Hitherto the parallel is complete; and out of France, at this hour, we see the same exiled royalty claiming its just rights, and its pretensions supported by a considerable party within the kingdom, which were witnessed in England after the accession of William, and for the success of which several sanguinary attempts were made in the reigns of his successors, George I. and II. It has yet to be known whether France will have its Fifteens and Forty-fives; its Vendées for Scottish Highlands; its Pretenders; its civil wars; its fearful executions; and its ultimate establishment of a firm and uncontested legal and universally acknowledged sovereignty.

and universally acknowledged sovereignty.

The last two or three lines of our quotation introduces the author's view of the state of James's foreign relations, which were equally favourable to the stability of his authority. He was intimately united with Lonis XIV., then in the zenith of his glory; and the connexion between England and France was as the researt moment, then his property is the stable of the present moment. intimate as at the present moment, though it is strange to observe that it rested on principles entirely opposite to those which form the basis and links of our existing political system. This Sir James Mackintosh remarks in one of his own lucid and expressive paragraphs.

"All those nations, of both religions, who trembled at the progress of France, turned their eyes towards James, and courted his alliance, in hopes that he might still be detached from his connexion with Louis, and that England might resume her ancient and noble station, as the guardian of the independence of nations. Could he have varied his policy, that bright career was still open to him. He, or rather a man of genius and magnanimity in his situation, might have rivalled the renown of Eliza-\* In one of our papers on the Publishing Trade, we stup the should have taught so little? In France rough. He was courted or dreaded by all the Bourbons of the beginning of the nine-fully: here it is only necessary to indicate it, so as not to interrupt our notice.—Ex.

space of four years, would be compelled to relinquish his throne, and to fly from his country, without struggle and almost without disturbance, by the mere result of his own system of measures, which, unwise and unrighteous as it was, seemed in every instance to be crowned with success till the very moment before its

After expounding the leading points in the king's continental relations, our author sketches, with a masterly hand, the characters of his principal Cabinet council, that species of ministry which had recently grown out of the more extended Privy council, and was found more convenient for the monarch's advisers in secret and other affairs of state. Sunderland, Rochester, Halifax, Godolphin, and Jeffreys, are drawn with a skilful touch; and the first and last are particularly well defined. Speaking of Jeffreys, it is admirably said,—"If he at last feared danger, he never feared shame, which much more frequently restrains the powerful.'

The military and judicial barbarities perpetrated after the battle of Sedgemoor are next reviewed; and afford a horrid picture of the state of society. Jeffrey's severities and cruelties, after the soldier executions of Faver-sham and Kirke, figure horribly in the foreground: all seems to have been intended to inspire that terror which it is confessed by our author in the first instance tended to strengthen the power of the tyrant. The chapter con-cludes with the following reflections:-

" The administration of justice in state prosecutions is one of the surest tests of good government. The judicial proceedings which have been thus carefully and circumstantially related, afford a specimen of those evils from which England was delivered by the Revolution. As these acts were done with the aid of juries, and without the censure of parliament, they also afford a fatal proof, that judicial forms and constitutional establishments may the prejudices of those who are appointed to carry them into effect. The wisest institu-tions may become a dead letter, and may even, for a time, be converted into a shelter and an instrument of tyranny, when the sense of justice and the love of liberty are weakened in the minds of a people."

On the ensuing meeting of parliament, the Marquess of Halifax having previously been dismissed from the ministry, "little notice was taken of the military and judicial excesses " little notice in the west. Sir Edward Seymour applauded the punishment of the rebels, and Waller alone, a celebrated wit, an ingenious poet, the father of parliamentary oratory, and one of the refiners of the English language, though now in his eightieth year, arraigned the violences of the soldiery with a spirit still unextinguished. He probably intended to excite a discussion which might gradually have reached the more deliberate and inexcusable faults of the judges. But the opinions and policy of his audience de-

feated his generous purpose.
"This disgraceful silence (adds the author) is, perhaps, somewhat extenuated by the slow circulation of intelligence at that period, by the censorship which imposed silence on the press, or enabled the ruling party to circulate falsehood through its means, and by the eagerness of all parties for a discussion of the alarming tone and principles of the speech from the throne."

In the house of peers, however, there was a tone and spirit widely different from the sub-

master was driven to a prorogation after a session of eleven days.

The author now proceeds to trace with great ability the progress of the king's efforts to enforce the Romish religion, by the violation of the laws and the exercise of prerogative, in many ways adapted to different countries and circumstances. He considers it doubtful to what extent his majesty's first ideas went, but points out the growth of his plans as he engaged in the contest with the Protestant church and other conflicting interests, and as he supposed he had acquired means to secure the victory. In this branch of the inquiry, the following appears to us to be worthy of attention.

While the Pope himself and the moderate Catholics discountenanced the measures, " the Catholic lords who were ambitious of office, the Jesuits, and especially the king's confessor, together with all the partisans of France, supported extreme counsels better suited to the temper of James, whose choice of political means was guided by a single maxim, that violence, which he confounded with vigour, was the only safe policy for an English monarch. Their most specious argument was the necessity of taking such decisive measures to strengthen the Catholics during the king's life as would effectually secure them against the hostility of his successor. The victory gained by this party over the moderate Catholics, as well as the Protestant Tories, was rendered more speedy and decisive by some intrigues of the court, which have not hitherto been fully known to historians. Mary of Este, the consort of James, was married at the age of fifteen : and had been educated in such gross ignorance. that she had never heard of the name of England until it was made known to her on occasion of her marriage. She was trained to a rigorous observance of all the practices of her religion, which sunk more deeply into her heart, and more constantly influenced her conduct, than was usual among Italian princesses. On her arrival in England, she betrayed a childish aversion to James, which was quickly converted into passionate fondness. But neither her attachment nor her beauty could fix the heart of that inconstant prince, who reconciled a warm zeal for his religion with an habitual indulgence in those pleasures which it most forbids. Her life was embittered by the triumph of mistresses, and by the frequency of her own perilous and unfruitful pregnancies. Her most formidable rival, at the period of the accession, was Catherine Sedley; a woman of few personal attractions, who inherited the wit and vivacity of her father, Sir Charles Sedley, which she unsparingly exercised on the priests and opinions of her royal lover. Her character was frank, her deportment bold, and her pleasantries more amusing than refined. after the accession, James was persuaded to relinquish his intercourse with her; and, though she retained her lodgings in the palace, he did not see her for several months. The connexion was then secretly renewed, and, in the first fervour of a revived passion, the king offered to give her the title of Countess of Dorchester. She declined this invidious distinction; assuring him that, by provoking the anger of the queen and of the Catholics, it would prove her ruin. He, however, insisted; and she yielded. upon condition that, if he was ever again prevailed upon to dissolve their connexion, he should come to her to announce his detertone and spirit widely different from the sub-servient submissiveness of the commons. The effects she had foreseen. Mary, proud of her insolence and coarseness of the Lord Chancellor beauty, still enamoured of her husband, and diately retired to her house in St. James's

Jeffreys were indignantly repressed, and his full of religious horror at the vices of Mrs. Sedley, gave way to the most clamorous ex-cesses of sorrow and anger at the promotion of her competitor. She spoke to the king with a violence for which she long afterwards reproached herself as a grievous fault. At one time she said to him, 'Is it possible that you are ready to sacrifice a crown for your faith and cannot discard a mistress for it? you for such a passion lose the merit of your sacrifices?' On another occasion she exclaim. ed, 'Give me my dowry, make her queen of England, and let me never see her more.' Her transports of grief sometimes betrayed her to foreign ministers; and she neither ate nor spake with the king at the public dinners of the court. The zeal of the queen for the Catholic religion, and the profane jests of Lady Dor. chester against its doctrines and ministers, had rendered them the leaders of the Popish and Protestant parties at court. The queen was supported by the Catholic clergy, who, with whatever indulgence their order had sometimes treated regal frailty, could not remain neuter in a contest between an orthodox queen and an heretical mistress. These intrigues early mingled with the designs of the two minis-ters, who still appeared to have equal influence in the royal counsels. Lord Rochester, who had felt the decline of the king's confidence from the day of Monmouth's defeat, formed the project of supplanting Lord Sunderland, and of recovering his ascendant in public affairs through the favour of the mistress. Having lived in a court of mistresses, and maintained himself in office by compliance with them, he thought it unlikely that wherever a favourite mistress existed she could fail to triumph over a queen. As the brother of the first Duchess of York, Mary did not regard him with cordiality. As the leader of the church party, he was still more obnoxious to her. He and his lady were the principal counsellors of the mistress. He secretly advised the king to confer on her the title of honour, probably to excite the queen to such violence as might widen the rupture between her and the king. He and his lady declared so openly for her as to abstain for several days, during the heat of the contest, from paying their respects to the queen; a circumstance much remarked at a time when the custom was still observed, which had been introduced by the companionable humour of Charles, for the principal nobility to appear almost daily at court. Sunderland, already connected with the Catholic favourites, was now more than ever compelled to make common cause with the queen. His great strength lay in the priests; but he also called in the aid of Madame Mazarin, a beautiful woman, of weak understanding, but practised in intrigue, who had been sought in marriage by Charles II. during his exile, refused by him after his restoration, and who, on her arrival in England ten years after, failed in the more humble attempt to become his mistress. The exhortations of the clergy, seconded by the beauty, the affection, and the tears of the queen, prevailed, after a severe struggle, over the ascendant of Lady Dor-chester. James sent Lord Middleton, one of his secretaries of state, to desire that she would leave Whitehall, and go to Holland, to which country a yacht was in readiness to convey her. In a letter written by his own hand, he acknowleged that he violated his promise; but excused himself by saying, that he was conscious of not possessing firmness enough to stand the test of an interview. She imme-

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Square; and offered to go to Scotland or Ireland, or to her father's estate in Kent; but land, or to her rather's estate in Kent; but protested against going to the continent, where means might be found of immuring her in a convent for life. She was threatened with being forcibly carried abroad. She appealed to the Great Charter against such an invasion of the liberty of the subject. The contest con-tinued for some time; and the king's advisers consented that she should go to Ireland, where Rochester's brother was lord lieutenant. She warned the king of his danger, and freely told him, that, if he followed the advice of Catholic realots, he would lose his crown. She represented herself as the Protestant martyr; and boasted, many years afterwards, that she had neither changed her religion, like Lord Sunderland, nor even agreed to be present at a disputation concerning its truth, like Lord Rochester."

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The most violent Catholics thus obtained entire ascendency. Halifax, as we have observed, and then Rochester, the last Protestant link in the ministry, were dismissed from office. By a collusive decision of the judges, instead of a parliamentary sanction, the power of placing the military and civil authority in the hands of the king's devoted adherents was obtained; the judges themselves were superseded at pleasure; the military were dangerously tampered with and taught to be controversialists rather than soldiers; the universities were attacked and oppressed; Scotland and Ireland were subjected to various modes of royal dictation; and, in fine, James acted throughout as if "he, indeed, considered the ecclesiastical supremacy as placed in his hands by Providence to enable him to betray the Protestant establishment. 'God,' said he to Barillon, 'has permitted that all the laws made to establish Protestantism now serve as a foundation for my measures to re-establish true religion, and give me a right to exercise a more extensive power than other Catholic princes possess in the ecclesiastical affairs of their dominions."

Besides his ardent attempts to proselytise the army, James exerted himself often with small success in endeavouring to obtain converts in other quarters. Among these, his own daughter Anne, and her husband, Prince George, restated the seduction; though a Pisgah view of the succession to the throne, in preference to the princess Mary, was held out as a lure for their embracing Catholicism. Other efforts

led to piquant consequences. "The king failed in a personal attempt to convert Lord Dartmouth, whom he considered as his most faithful servant, for having advised him to bring Irish troops into England, as they were more worthy of trust than others; a remarkable instance of a man of honour who adhered inflexibly to the church of England, though his counsels relating to civil affairs were the most fatal to public liberty. Middleton, one of the secretaries of state, a man of ability, supposed to have no strong principles of religion, was equally inflexible. The Catholic divine who was sent to him began by attempting to reconcile his understanding to the mysterious doctrine of transubstantiation. 'Your lordship,' said he, 'believes the Trinity.' Who told you so?' answered Middleton; you are come here to prove your own opinions, not to ask about mine.' The astonished priest is said to have immediately retired. Sheffield, earl of Mulgrave, is also said to have sent away a monk who came to convert him, by a jest upon the same doctrine: — 'I have convinced myself,' said he, 'by much reflection that God made man; but I cannot believe that man can make God.' But though there is no late as the year 1547, the o'Malaghtonial assembly, called a parliament, convinced a parliament, convinced myself,' said he, 'by much reflection that God made man; but I cannot believe that man can make God.' But though there is no late as the year 1547, the privileged tribes of the O'Neils of Ulster, the O'Malaghtonia of Thomond, and the Mac Murroughs of Leinster; to the o'Malaghtonia of Thomond, and the Mac Murroughs of Thomond, and the Mac Murroughs of Thomond, and the Mac Murroughs of Leinster; to the O'Neils of Ulster, the O'Malaghtonia of Thomond, and the Mac Murroughs of Leinster; to the O'Neils of Ulster, the O'Malaghtonia of Thomond, and the Mac Murroughs of Leinster; to the O'Neils of Ulster, the O'Malaghtonia of Thomond, and the Mac Murroughs of Leinster; to the O'Neils of Ulster, the O'Malaghtonia of Thomond, and the Mac Murroughs of Leinster; to the O'Neils of Ulster, the O'Malaghtonia of Thomond, and the Mac Murroughs of Leinster; to the O'Neils of Ulster, the O'Malaghtonia of Thomond, and the Mac Murroughs of Leinster; to the O'Neils of Ulster, the O'Malaghtonia of Thomond, and the Mac Murroughs of Leinster; to the O'Neils of the O'

reason to doubt his pleasantry or profaneness, his integrity is more questionable. He was made lord chamberlain immediately after Jeffrey's circuit. He was appointed a member of the ecclesiastical commission when Sancroft refused to act. He continued in that office to the last. He held hopes that he might be converted to a very late period of the reign. He was employed by James to persuade Sir George Mackenzie to consent to the removal of the test. He brought a patent for a marquisate to the king when on the eve of quitting the kingdom; and in the month of October, 1688, he thought it necessary to provide against the approaching storm by obtaining a general pardon. Colonel Kirke, from whom strong scruples were hardly to be expected, is said to have answered the king's desire that he would listen to Ca-tholic divines, by declaring, that when he was at Tangier he had engaged himself to the Emperor of Morocco, if ever he changed his religion, to become a Mahometan. Lord Churchill, though neither insensible to the kindness of James, nor distinguished by a strict conformity to the precepts of religion, withstood the attempts of his generous benefactor to bring him over to the church of Rome. He said of him-self, that though he had not led the life of a saint, he trusted that he had the courage to die the death of a martyr."

It is but justice to note here, that Jeffreys continued faithful to the Protestant Church, even above the prerogative for which he had gone so far. The revocation of the Edict of Nantes shewed how heartily the French and English kings were embarked in the same cause.

The queen's pregnancy brought out all the bitterness of party which had been engendered during the preceding two years; raised the hopes of the Catholics, with their allies the Nonconformists, Independents, Baptists, and Quakers, whom James had conciliated by im-munities, in order to disunite and weaken the Protestant body as connected with the Episcopal Church; and proportionately provoked the fears and resistance of the latter. But as we find this to be a convenient stage whereat to pause, we shall conclude our present notice with a few separate illustrations.

When describing the king's proceedings in

Ireland, Sir James says—
"The state, the church, the administration, and the property of that unhappy island, were bound together by such unnatural ties, and placed on such weak foundations, that every rumour of alteration in one of them spread the deepest alarm for the safety of the whole. From the colonisation of a small part of the eastern coast under Henry II. till the last years of the reign of Elizabeth, an unceasing and cruel warfare was waged by the English governors against the princes and chiefs of the Irish tribes, with little other effect than that of preventing the progress of civilisation of the Irish, of replunging many of the English into barbarism, and of generating that deadly animosity between the natives and the invaders, under the names of Irishry and Englishry, which, assuming various forms, and exasperated by a fatal succession of causes, has continued even to our days the source of innumerable woes. During that dreadful period of four hundred years, the laws of the English colony did not punish the murder of a man of Irish blood as a crime.\* Even so late as the year 1547, the

firmed the insolent laws which prohibited the English of the pale from marrying persons of Irish blood. Religious hostility inflamed the hatred of these mortal foes. The Irish, attached to their ancient opinions as well as usages, and little addicted to doubt or inquiry, rejected the reformation of religion offered to them by their enemies. The Protestant worship became soon to be considered by them as the odious badge of conquest and oppression. The ancient religion was endeared by persecution, and by its association with the name, the language, and the manners of their country. The island had long been represented as a fief of the see of Rome; the Catholic clergy, and even laity, had no unchangeable friend but the sovereign pontiff; and their chief hope of deliverance from a hostile yoke was long confined to Spain, the leader of the Catholic party in the European commonwealth. The old enmity of Irishry and Englishry thus appeared with redoubled force under the new names of Catholic and Protestant."

Tyrconnell, no doubt, aimed at the inde-pendent sovereignty of Ireland as a Roman Catholic country under the protection of France, in the event of James's dying without a Catholic successor; and loose expectations were endom, with its own religion. "Even Milton," says a note on the insurrection of 1641, "calls the Irish Catholics, or, in other words, the Irish nation, 'Conscelerata et barbara colluvies.'"

When James ordered the heads, &c. of Magdalen College, Cambridge, to answer for their opposition to his wishes in London, we find this notice of Newton:

"Among the deputies at the bar, and pro-bably undistinguished from the rest by the ignorant and arrogant chancellor, who looked down upon them all with the like scorn, stood Isaac Newton, professor of mathematics in the university, then employed in the publication of a work which will perish only with the world, but who shewed on that, as on every other fit opportunity in his life, that the most sublime contemplations and the most glorious discoveries could not withdraw him from the defence of the

liberties of his country."

And at a later period, the author speaks thus of the famous John Bunyan:

" The history and genius of Bunyan were as much more extraordinary than those of Baxter as his station and attainments were inferior. He is probably at the head of unlettered men of genius, and perhaps there is no other instance of any man reaching fame from so abject an origin; for the other extraordinary men who have become famous without education, though they were without what is called learning, have had much reading and knowledge, and though they were repressed by poverty, were not, like him, sullied by a vagrant and disreputable occupation. By his trade of a travelling tinker, he was from his earliest years placed in the midst of profligacy, and on the verge of dishonesty. He was for a time a private in the parliamentary army; the only military service which was likely to elevate his sentiments and amend his life. Having embraced the opinions of the Baptists, he was soon admitted to preach in a community which did not recognise the distinction between the clergy and the laity."

Among the sectarians we have specified, "he disguise, was the Marquess of Winchester, who availed himself of the indulgence of James II. indulged and magnified the eccentricities of an without trusting it; and died unmolested, in the last year of that prince's government. His Pilgrim's Progress, an allegorical representation of the Calvinistic theology, at first found readers only among those of that persuasion, gradually emerged from this narrow circle, and by the natural power of imagination over the uncorrupted feelings of the majority of mankind, at length rivalled Robinson Crusoe in popularity. The bigots and persecutors sunk into oblivion; the scoffs of wits and worldlings were unavailing; while, after the lapse of a century, the object of their cruelty and scorn touched the poetical sympathy as well as the piety of Cowper; his genius subdued the opposite prejudices of Johnson and of Franklin, and his name has been uttered in the same breath with those of Spenser and Dante."

In noticing the temptation of various sects to unite with the king and the Catholics against the Church, we should have marked the difference of the Presbyterians of that day, whose

position is ably put before us.

" The general body of Nonconformists were divided into four parties, on whom the court acted through different channels, and who were variously affected by its advances. The Presbyterians, the more wealthy and educated portion, were the descendants of the ancient Puritans, who were rather desirous of reforming the church of England than of separating from it; and though the breach was widened by the civil war, they might have been reunited at the Restoration by moderate concession in the form of worship, and by limiting the episcopal authority agreeably to the project of the learned Usher, and to the system of superintendency established among the Lutherans. They gradually, indeed, learned to prefer the perfect equality of the Calvinistic clergy; but they did not profess that exclusive zeal for it which actuated their Scottish brethren, who had received their reformation from Geneva. Like men of other communions, they originally deemed it the duty of the magistrate to establish true religion, and to punish the crime of rejecting it. In Scotland they continued to be sternly intolerant; in England they reluctantly acquiesced in imperfect toleration. Their object was then what was called a comprehension, or such an enlargement of the terms of communion as might enable them to unite with the church; a measure which would have broken the strength of the dissenters, to the imminent hazard of civil liberty. From them the king had the least hopes. They were undoubtedly much more hostile to the establishment after twenty-five years' persecution. But they were still connected with the tolerant clergy; and as they continued to aim at something besides mere toleration, they considered the royal declaration, even if honestly meant, as only a temporary advantage."

We conclude with a reference to a scheme of James's minister, Sunderland, to swamp the peers, who stood sternly in the way of his master's projects, and which we think will be read with interest, on account of its nearly resembling the subject recently so warmly dis-

cussed in our domestic politics.

"If such a majority were to continue im-movable, the counsels of the king must have been desperate, or he must have had recourse to open force. But this perseverance was impro-bable. Among the doubtful there might have been some who concealed a determined resolution under the exterior of silence or of hesitation. Such, though under a somewhat different

extravagant character; counterfeited, or rather affected a disordered mind, as a security in dangerous times, like the elder Brutus in the legendary history of Rome; and travelling through England in the summer of 1687, with a retinue of four coaches and a hundred horsemen, slept during the day, gave splendid entertainments in the night; and by torch-light, or early dawn, pursued the sports of hunting and hawking. But the majority of the doubtful must have been persons who assumed that character to enhance their price, or who lay in wait for the turns of fortune, or watched for the safe moment of somewhat anticipating her determination. Of such men the powerful never despair. example of a very few would be soon followed by the rest; and if they or many of them were gained, the accession of strength could not fail to affect those timid and mercenary men who are to be found in all bodies, and whose long adherence to the opposition was already wonderful. But the subtle genius of Lord Sunderland, not content with ordinary means of seduction, and with the natural progress of desertion, had long meditated an expedient for quickening the latter, and for supplying in some measure the place of both. He early communicated to the nuncio a plan for subduing the obstinacy of the upper house by the creation of the requisite number of new peers devoted to his majesty's measures. He proposed to call up by writ the elder sons of friendly lords, which would increase the present strength, without the encumbrance of new peerages, whose future holders might be independent. Some of the Irish, and probably of the Scotch nobility, whose rank made their elevation to the English peerage specious, and whose fortunes disposed them to dependency on royal bounty, attracted his attention, as they did that of those ministers who carried his project into execution twenty-five years afterwards. He was so enamoured of this plan, that in a numerous company, where the resistance of the upper house was said to be formidable, he cried out to Lord Churchill, 'O, silly! why, your troop of guards shall be called to the house of On another occasion (if it be not a different version of the same anecdote), he declared, that sooner than not gain a majority in the house of lords, he would make all Lord Feversham's troop peers. The power of the crown was in this case unquestionable. The constitutional purpose for which the prerogative of creating peers exists, is, indeed, either to reward public service, or to give dignity to important offices, or to add ability and knowledge to a part of the legislature, or to repair the injuries time, by the addition of new wealth to an aristocracy which may have decayed. But no law limits its exercise. By the bold exercise of the prerogative of creating peers, and of the then equally undisputed right of granting to towns the privilege of sending members to parliament, it is evident that the king possessed the fullest means of subverting the constitution by law. The obstacles to the establishment of despotism consisted in his own irresolution or unskilfulness, in the difficulty of finding a sufficient number of trustworthy agents, and in such a determined hostility of the body of the people as led sagacious observers to forbode an armed resistance.

We have only to add, now, that we observe references to the Stuart Papers; and to express our wish that these documents were in a condition to render access and reference to them more easy and ample.

The Old Maiden's Talisman, and other Strange Tales. By the Author of "Chartley." &c. 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1834. Bull and Churton.

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THE author of these volumes possesses a strangely constituted mind. In real life, his delineations, though marked with a certain degree of talent, have been somewhat forced and crude. But one vein he has peculiarly his own,-the fantastic and supernatural. Gentleman in Black was one of the most amusing stories we ever read; and portions of The Invisible Gentleman were under the immediate inspiration of Queen Mab herself. The present volumes contain much of the same lively invention. The Old Maiden's Talisman is a good and original idea, though scarcely so well worked out: it is too long - the less was complete with Lord Highbury's death. "Peter Snook" is a failure; but "The Haunted Lodging-house" and "Follow your are two entertaining stories, half burlesque, half fanciful. The ensuing extract is a specimen of the first-mentioned tale. Gaspar Wienbrenner is a gentleman with that common possession, a bad temper. This temper takes, however, an unusual method of exhibition.

His special indulgence is to bid people "follow their nose;" a piece of advice, to say the least of it, unnecessary. However, he is in a neighbourhood where there are beings even more queer than himself, viz. the Black Forest. One day he is accosted by an odd-looking elderly man, to whom he offers his uncourteous instructions. The pedestrian advises him in his turn to desist; but Gaspar's great enjoyment is when his favourite, indeed almost only phrase, produces anger. At length the pas-

senger exclaims :

" You have now repeated your very distinct and inelegant instructions nine times, and I mean to follow them to the letter.' At that moment Wienbrenner and the speaker were standing face to face, the four feet, thickset, square-cut hedge being between them; but scarcely had he uttered his intentions, ere the singular personage, taking three steps forward, became plunged and apparently stuck fast in the formidable fence, his head and shoulders alone being visible, and looking very much like a painted bust placed upon it for ornament.

'Ho, ho, ho! ha, ha, ha!' shouted Gaspar;
'that's one way of following your nose, sure enough! he, he, he! How do you like it?
ha, ha, ha! Oh dear, what a fool the fellow is! Why don't you come on?' 'I'm coming,' replied the stranger. And immediately there replied the stranger. And immediately there was heard a cracking and breaking, as he moved his legs forward among the ancient, tough, knotted, and twisted roots, stems, and branches; all gave way before him, and in three steps he had passed the hedge, leaving a gap which looked as though it had been made by a mass of red-hot iron. What's the meanby a mass of red-hot iron. 'What's the meaning of this?' exclaimed the smoker. 'I'm following my nose, answered the mysterious personage. And he continued steadily to advance upon Gaspar, who stepped aside just in time to prevent a personal collision, but not quickly enough to save his meerschaum pipe, which, coming in contact with the intruder, fell in a blackened, calcined state upon the ground, while its owner, accustomed to draw his breath through the tube under all circumstances, inhaled a most unsavoury mouthful of something like the fumes of burning sulphur. Any com-mon mouth would have been shrivelled and parched by it like a dried leaf; but his merely emitted a slight 'Pah!' of disapprobation; and then, no longer able to relish his joke,

he stared with a marvellous, stupid stare upon his unwelcome visitor, who calmly proceeded and I'm thinking it won't be much improved onward in a mathematical straight line. Gaspar observed his progress, and felt as if he was dreaming; trees, flowers, and shrubs, all gave way before the elderly elucidator of how to follow one's nose, and wherever he had passed, a black scorched line remained upon the ground. The destructive march had gone on for three minutes ere Wienbrenner could summon suffiminutes ere wientereiner could summon sufficient presence of mind to bawl out, 'Hallo there!-stop! what are you after? I'll make you repent of this!' 'I follow my nose,' replied the stranger, in a loud, hollow, but fearfully calm and decided tone; and, without turning to look at his excited director, sedately pursued his course of destruction. Presently he came to a huge ash-tree, through which he walked with as much apparent ease as though it had been a cloud, but with a very different effect, for the perforation made by his passage left but too slight a support on either side for the upholding of the numerous and wide-spread branches above; there was a creaking and groaning, and then the whole lofty mass swayed majestically over to one side, and fell to the ground with a crash which shook the neighboarhood. The good woman of the house was at this moment just preparing to 'take up the dinner;' it may naturally be supposed, therefore, that her alarm and curiosity were excessive, since she was led to postpone the fulfilment of that important duty, and to go out to see what had happened. It was a strange sight that met her eyes: there was the immense tree lying, with all its crushed and broken limbs upon the ground, and an elderly person came walking slowly out from the midst of it, with as much coolness as though he were coming out from his own door. 'I hope you are not hurt!' she exclaimed. 'Not in the least, I thank you, madam,' replied the stranger, politely. 'I am sorry to have caused you any alarm; but the simple fact is, that I am following my nose, according to your husband's instructions, and therefore I must take the liberty of requesting you to stand out of the The good woman was then between him and the house, and could see her spouse at the other end of the garden looking towards them. It struck her as being odd that he had not accompanied the elderly walker; but what ap-peared yet more singular than even the fall of peared yet more singular than even the last of a tree in its prime was, that no smoke issued from Gaspar's mouth. The long, black, straight line of devastation was screened from her view by the mass of recumbent foliage; and as the stranger was now arrived on an open paved space in front of the house, he left no other race of his footsteps than certain dirty-looking marks, which, while they were annoying to her cleanly habits, excited no particular attention; consequently she had no clue to, nor any apprehension of the mystery that was going forward. 'May I trouble you to move a little or ward. 'May I trouble you to move a little on one side, madam?' resumed the broad-brimmed elderly gentleman; 'just a step or two, as otherwise you perceive I cannot follow my nose without running against you, which would be very contrary to my intentions, and very painful to your feelings.' This being speken in a serio-compile style the good house. spoken in a serio-comic style, the good house-wife at once decided that the stranger was a humorist to whom Gaspar's wonted phrase had given the idea of having a bit of fun. It seemed a strange joke certainly, for a man to run his head against the stone-wall of a house; and so she moved herself out of the odd per-son's way, muttering to herself, 'You've an away as usual, it hung densely about his says,' O'er all the ills of life victorious.'—

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if you rub it against our house.' When the stranger, walking deliberately forward, first came in contact with the building, she could scarcely forbear laughing; but it is impossible to describe her sensations of astonishment and dismay, when at the next step she beheld him sink into the massy stone wall, like a piece of hot iron melting and penetrating the ice, and leaving the exact imprint of its form. There was his precise figure, the cut of his coat and pantaloons, the broad-brimmed, low-crowned, slouching hat—even the stick which he carried in his hand, all carved distinctly in the solid stone! The poor woman stared wildly, then rubbed her eyes to ascertain if she were quite awake; and when she opened them again, and perceived that the man had really gone through the stone-wall, she shrieked out with feminine shrillness, and threw herself upon her knees."

He pursues his way through house and all, when Gaspar follows, with a common question:
"'Dinner ready?' cried he. 'No, nor won't be to-day,' replied she. 'Eh?—what?—how?' exclaimed Gaspar, his black brows lowering like a thunder-cloud. 'Stove and all gone!' replied the desponding Gertrude, with tears in her eyes; 'beef, cabbage, goose, all gone! Nothing left but the tail of a trout, and that's burnt to a cinder.' Hitherto Gaspar had endured his visitation with the narcotic philosophy of an opium-eater; but at this announcement his wrath burst forth with a violence proportionate to his previous retention. He rushed into the kitchen, and swore tremendously over the wreck of his anticipated dinner; and then, with his wife hanging upon the tails of his coat, he rushed out at the back of the house, vowing vengeance against the old rascal. But the old gentleman had got the start, and was at that moment upon much higher ground at a considerable distance, walking through the invaluable orchard of cherry-trees, along a line of which his nose unluckily conducted him. About a score were already prostrate, and others were creaking and fall-Onward went Gaspar, swearing and towing poor Gerty, by whose exertions he was fortunately retarded so much as to prevent his coming up with the stranger. It has since been doubted by some whether he was not secretly pleased at being thus held back from attacking his formidable visiter; be that as it may, he was obliged to stop to take breath, when he caught sight of the slouching broadbrimmed hat moving above the quickset hedge which bounded his premises, and ere he could ejaculate a word, the stranger had disappeared. Then Wienbrenner swore certain very brief, but withal very tremendous oaths, mingled with threats of what he would have done if the intruder had not taken himself off; but, having no other weapon in his hand than his pipe, he lighted that, abandoned all further pursuit, and, turning towards his wife, said, 'Get somewoman went her way to prepare some salted pork and sour krout; and while she was thus engaged, her lord and master, tracing back the black line of his visiter's march, discovered with horror that he had gone through the invaluable pile of pipe-sticks, of which nothing remained but two heaps of charred fragments, powerfully redolent of sulphur. The shock produced by this spectacle is indescribable. He stood aghast; his whole frame trembled; and

visage, like a heavy cloud clinging to the top of a hill. His rage was too great for utterance; he reeled back against the side of the shed, and probably would soon have fallen into a fit of apoplexy, had it not so happened that, just at that critical moment, a shrill and awakening sound reached his ear:
—it was the voice of his wife, proclaiming, 'Dinner is ready.' The fame of this adventure spread far and wide, and caused much speculation concerning the real character of the nose-follower; but the good folks of the valley nose-follower; but the good folks of the valley generally agreed, that such a visitation could not fail to cure Gaspar of his disagreeable habit. A month had elapsed; a neat little white gate filled the gap in the hedge, and the other damages were nearly obliterated, when Mynheer Wienbrenner received a visit from the Abbé of Herrenalt, a person of no small consequence in these regions. Gertrude welcomed the venerable dignitary with unsophisticated hospitality, and invited him to dinner; and his reverence accepted her invitation, perhaps because he liked the tidy appearance of the house, and perhaps from motives of cu-riosity, but certainly with the intent of bestowing his advice on Gaspar, who was engaged in smoking under the cherry-trees, contemplating a fresh accumulation of pipe-sticks. Bah! said he to Gertrude, when she announced the rank of her visitor, 'you can tell him all about it: I hate talking!'" (The abbé gives good advice, and) "ventured to touch upon the delicate subject of bad habits, and hoped that the recent visitation had produced its intended effect. As Gaspar continued to smoke without making any reply, the good man had it all his own way, and waxed consequently more vehement, glorifying himself not a little on the patient attention and resignation of his auditor, on whom, he doubted not, he had made a deep impression. This scene was at length put an end to by the appearance of Gertrude, to announce that dinner was ready.

I perceive that your wife is approaching,' said the abbé, 'therefore I shall add no more. If I have spoken with some degree of freedom, you will recollect that it is my duty so to do; but I am sure that a gentleman of your evident good sense will perceive the propriety of what I have said: I am certain that you will never in future relapse into your former habits.' 'Oinner is waiting for us,' said Gertrude.
'High time,' observed her husband: 'it's a quarter past——.' 'I hope my presence will not make the smallest difference,' said the abbé to his hostess; and then, turning to his host, he added, 'I should be sorry to cause the least alteration in your usual customs.' 'Follow your nose, then,' replied Gaspar, pointing with his pipe towards the house."

The loss of his dinner, it must be allowed, is a severe moral lesson; and with that we

Imaginative Biography. By Sir Egerton Brydges. 2 vols. 12mo. London, 1834. Brydges. 2 vols. 12mo.

Saunders and Otley.

WE like the plan of this work exceedingly; it brings so many old friends and favourites before us; it recalls so many of our pleasantest reading associations; and abounds so in curious research and agreeable illustration. We can-not do better than proceed forthwith to make a few miscellaneous extracts, and shew, as far as our limits admit, the character and style of these volumes.

It is above condition, and fortune, and malice and envy, and calumny, and intrigue, and treachery, and plunder. Without some portion of sympathy with it, our sojourn here would be comfortless despair. When those flitting and shadowy charms have been embodied and realised, a great feat is done. Easy as it may seem, how little do we find of it in that which is daily put forth as poetry, which is formed of some unnatural association, some false thought, some meretricious glare! It is strange that so many writers miss the true images and feelings which are every moment impressing themselves upon us. Perhaps it arises from the false theory of what are the purposes of poetry. Of no purposes so high: of none are the influences and effects so universal - so operative on our general nature. Particular parts of literature. particular departments of knowledge, may give accomplishment and use, but they cannot enter into the daily movements of our hearts, nor affect the essences of our universal being. may pass our lives without interest in them. The topics which poetry ought to dwell upon, affect us every moment. These are not idle pretensions or idle distinctions. But it may probably be asserted without exaggeration, that an erroneous opinion, the reverse of this, is generally spread, that the aim of poetry is to deal in idle and empty fancies; and to take us totally away from the feelings of nature and the sympathies of the mass of mankind:-to by monsters, and improbabilities, and impossibilities! This makes artificial manufacturers of nauseous verses, and half insane or foolish pretenders to inspiration: this brings the name into contempt, and gives a divine art the character of emptiness and nonsense. But no one of sound sense and taste ever falls into this vulgar mistake; and the dull and the mean-hearted are glad to take advantage of it to cover their insensibility. What they thus traduce is not poetry; nor has a grain of poetry in it. It is as little what poets could write, as its author could write poetry. Gaudy words are easily put together, and extravagant images produced by forced combinations. But such inventions, if inventions they may be called, are loathsome. The deepest sagacity, the soundest judgment, the most accurate imagination, the most exquisite sensibility, are necessary to make a true poet. How can there be a genuine imagination where there is no perfect knowledge of truth? How can the poet paint mankind to the life, if the imagination.

whence he draws his lights, is inaccurate?"

The contrast between Collins and Johnson. and the ensuing dialogue, is so characteristic

that we give it entire.

"Collins gloried in wandering out of the sphere of common life, and revelling among spiritual existences; yet such is the inconsistence of human nature, that he was indignant and resentful because he did not gain applause from the common creatures of humanity. We cannot reconcile such contradictory expectations to reason. But the fact is well authenticated. If we were on this account to deny that the imaginative pleasures of the poet were genuine, we should only deceive and stultify ourselves. The impulses of the mind are sometimes too forcible for the organs of the body. which then give way, and become incapable of doing their duty. There are some minds which mingle what is real with all their high visions: but only the reality of grandeur, beauty, and tenderness. There are others which are strictly abstract. Though Collins tended to this latter in his intellectual operations and taste, yet his

ambition did not purify itself of worldly desires. This was a weakness injurious to himself, yet not alloying his mental products. He could scarcely be said to deal in those speculations come home to men's business and bosoms. In this respect he is strongly distinguished from Gray; - Gray's personifications are all of a more moral cast. Johnson, whatever may have been his sagacity, did not at all apprehend the nature of Collins's genius. He could not avoid to perceive that he had great talents and great learning; but how his mind worked, and in what direction his strength lay, he has strangely mistaken. He does not bring his secret

' Beyond this visible diurnal sphere,'

He talks of no 'Elysian waterfalls.' He delineates human passions, though he delineates them in shadowy shapes. His was an attempt, not to embody aerial beings, but to spiritualise earthly ones.

" Collins, J. Warton, and Johnson.

" Warton. How has the night passed ?- Collins. Wearily.—War. I had hoped you would have thought upon our retreat to Wynslade.— Col. I cannot remove particular ideas which press, press, till it becomes agony .- War. It is a bodily disorder, which country air will remove.

Col. I am afraid not; my mind has long been wandering, before my health gave way. - War. I always told you that you tried your faculties too much .- Johnson. The mind requires repeated recreation. I know above most men how painful and dangerons are the diseases of the mind. -Col. I am fully sensible how soothingly and considerately you have treated this disease in me.—John. And yet we have had some hard words sometimes.—Col. I confess there are many points of literature on which we disagree totis viribus. — War. I will mediate between you. — John. No, no; you will take Collins's -Col. He ought to take my side; he is my school-fellow, and we have pursued the same track of studies.—John. I am not sure of that; I see great differences between you.-War. You are quick at seeing distinctions .-John. This is one of the great purposes of the mind; I am glad that I do so.—War. For my part I rather love to find likenesses.—Col. We have all our separate tasks to do.—John. But we must take care not to push our faculties too far : the most dangerous power of the mind is imagination.- War. You some times carry your prejudices against it to an excess .- John. cess.—John. Yes, Joe, you are always for the romantic, till you lose sight of reason. Col. I find myself feeble, and cannot enter into the argument. - War. I am used to Johnson's rough sallies; but we must not annoy you on this subject.—John. Nay, but it will not annoy our sick friend: he himself now sees the necessity of sober and calm studies. War. (smiling) It is not the way to soothe him, to tell him that all his pursuits have been wrong .- John. Why, sir, if a man has got into a wrong path, the best service to him is to pull him out of it .- War. Yes, if you do not by your roughness dislocate his arm or break his head.—John. Some disorders or errors require rough treatment .-Col. My friend Johnson is sometimes a rough physician. — John. Well, well; all is meant well: and I would not hurt your feelings, Collins. Books may be good things; but society is better for the disorders of the head. — War. There is sometimes a balm in society, but I would not quit my books for an empire.—
John. You have not known the bitterness of absolute poverty, as I have done; otherwise by the vain passions of the word, and the word, and the word of the wo

and more pleasurable than books.—Col. I used to think as Warton does, but books now fatigue or irritate me.—War. This is a mere fever, which will pass away. Col. I do not feel as if it would pass away.—John. 'Hope travels on, nor leaves us till we die!'—War. I am confi. dent that air and exercise will work upon you like magic .- John. Joe reads and translates the Georgics till he fancies himself a peasant; but perhaps in the present case his advice is good, and I would try it, Collins; but assuredly there is a great deal of delusion in the imagined joys of a rustic life.—Col. I should more readily embrace his kind offer, if my bodily strength was equal to a journey.—War. Do not call it a journey; the distance is nothing.—Col. But I shall not have strength to walk when I get to Wynslade."

Just Remark .- "The more high our thoughts. the more the execution is apt to fall short; and when we perceive that we have not succeeded in conveying our ideas to others, our disappointment is proportionally keen. We los ourselves between anger and self-humiliation.

We cordially and entirely agree with the

following observations : -

" Nothing is so unjust as to deny a man's genius or his good qualities, because he occa-sionally writes or does absurd or wrong things. What is great, or brilliant, or virtuous, must be tried in right of itself. If Paradise Lost had been written by a bad or ridiculous man, though I do not think it could, would it alter its merit? All that Lady Blessington has said about Lord Byron, will not alter the power of the magnificent or passionate passages of his poetry. Men are often wise in the closet, who are foolish in public. Lord Erskine was a fool in company, however great, eloquent, and brilliant at the bar. Nothing is more common than this contradiction. It is not always advisable to withdraw the veil from moments of carelessness and relaxation. It has a tendency to deaden the energies of the spur of fame. It gratifies the ill-tempered and detracting feelings of common minds. And what does it prove? That human nature is frail! What good can the repetition of such knowledge do? Is it to lessen the admiration of works of genius? This is a mischievous, not a praiseworthy effect. If it makes us doubt the wisdom of wisdom, then it is blasting ! "

Nor are those on human vanity and incon-

sistency less true :

"The powers of the human mind vary so much, require such different food, and display themselves at such different periods of life, that no universal rule on this subject can perhaps be established. But whatever debilitates toil and weakens attention, cannot, surely, be doubted to operate unfavourably. Man is so strange a compound of inconsistent qualities, our virtues and vices so border on each other, and so often cross the line, that the imperfect regulation of our hearts is, above all, in continual inimicality with the improvement of our intellects. Our passions put us into straits, which will not allow us the free play of our reason. Vapours rise before us, and limit or discolour the objects of our sight. We court these vapours, because our eyes are not strong enough to behold the truth. But truth, and truth alone, must be the pursuit of genius and learning. else will secure fame; nothing else will make an author's writings live. The flimsy plausibility of perverted talent will disperse, like fogs before the sun. He may be above the influence of the vain passions of the world, who chooses

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this r natur child is, th destit they will operate as a charm against insult and |inclination impelled him to the stage as a proare strong-minded enough to be unmoved by. And it happens too frequently, that when this strength of mind is assumed, it degenerates into countervailing assumption, which takes the shape of a coarse rudeness. The stern vir-tue which thus finds itself at leisure to unmask truth, and hold those unrestrained conversations with her, for which the submission to worldly desires disqualifies us, is probably among the very rarest of human distinctions. Milton had it: Bacon had it not: and Addison had it not. Will it be said that a greater mixture with human frailties makes us more familiar with them, and more tender to them? Must, then, the mind be ignorant of that of which it has not had practical experience? Will it be contended that Shakspeare's conception of the characters of Lady Macbeth, Othello, Lear, great cares, sorrows, and dimensiones, because he always displays an elasticity, a cheerfulness, a sunshine, quite incompatible with the load of anxiety and woe. In Milton we perceive more of suffering and of gloom; but he throws off the incompany widely like gioup. In Danta of suffering and of gloom; but ne throws on the incumbent weight like a giant. In Dante and in Tasso, the elastic force, which no oppres-sion could destroy, is more extraordinary. In-deed, in the case of Tasso, it shews the strength and blaze of human genius, in a light of which the wonder can never be exhausted."

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ignity, spect; sir Egerton Brydges is among the literary benefactors of the present day. Few have ever been more devoted to their cause. The in-terests, the advancement, and the honour of literature, have been his principal objects through life. The resources of his own elegant and cultivated mind must be his chief reward; but to these he has also to add public sympathy and public gratitude.

Nine Years of an Actor's Life,—Robert Dyer, late of the Theatres Royal, Plymouth, Wor-

cester, Derby, &c. 12mo. pp. 247. London, 1834, Longman and Co.; Kenneth; Brompton, Symons; Plymouth, Nettleton.

MR. DYER having retired from the stage, after a nine years' experience of its provincial sweets and bitters, has thrown together this story of his career, which may, we think, be very acceptable in two ways; first, as a lesson to all stage-struck heroes; and secondly, as an amusing volume of light reading, which even the most indifferently written of dramatic biographies are. This, however, has a life and reality about it which takes it out of the category of laboured dulness; and we have been really entertained by the author's anecdotes, if not in a condition to be much edified by his adventures.

It is the universal lot of a player, in town and country, at the head or bottom of the profession, to fancy himself, and every circumstance connected with him, to be of high public consequence. We have known many of the "diverting vagabonds," and the exceptions to this rule only prove it. Thus Mr. Dyer very naturally sets out with an account of his early childhood; respecting which, all we shall notice is, that he was addicted to declamation, &c. while yet a school-boy; and that being left destitute, instead of inheriting the independ-ence he had a right to expect, necessity and

depression; they will bow down the insolence depression; they will bow down the insolence fession. From the various criticisms quoted, it is evident that he sustained a considerable reduzzle both in wealth and in titles, which few putation in the upper walks of tragedy; and, from the numerous testimonies of private pa-tronage and esteem, that he was no less worthy of regard for his good conduct as a member of society. Always respectable, he conciliated the good will and friendship of the leading persons in the various towns where he acted; so that his course must have been fortunate, could any course be so for the ill-paid, uncertain, and unlucky stroller.

But we shall not enter into this trite sub-ject; the best way we can recommend the volume to the favour which we trust it will meet, so as to do something for its meritorious author, will be to make a dramatic olio of some of its laughable and characteristic anecdotes.

"Seymour, the stage-manager, at Worcester, was on the scene with me, at a time when some jovial fellows in the pit attempted to open a bottle of ginger-beer without disturbing us characters of Lady Macbeth, Othello, Lear, Hamlet, &c. arose from personal observation? The more free the mind is for the play of its faculties, the more strongly and the more truly is will conceive. We know scarcely any thing of the private history of Shakspeare; but it must be presumed that his mind was free from the presumed that his mind was free from when the whizzing accompaniment, with a distinct whistomy of the private history of Shakspeare; but it must be presumed that his mind was free from when the whizzing increased, and a voice said (Now!) which Sevmour thought a signal for when the whizzing increased, and a voice said 'Now!' which Seymour thought a signal for disapprobation against him; and stepping forward, to the amazement of the public, he said, 'Why do you hiss me, ladies and gentlemen? I have served you to the best of my ability, and it grieves me that my efforts should end in \_\_\_\_\_' at this moment the cork, impatient of coaxing, flew up with a loud explosion, and Seymour's speech ended in 'Pop!'"

Playing Der Freischütz at Plymouth, Mr. D.

says:—
"Mine was triumphant success; and a loud call was raised for my appearance at the end of the play. Out of this circumstance arose a ludicrous mistake. Dyer and Fire are similar in sound; and when my admirers cried Dyer, several persons became dreadfully apprehensive of Fire; and one elderly lady betrayed such violent agitation, that to quiet her, a friend of mine shouted aloud, from his place in the boxes, 'It's false, madam, it's false! there is not a spark of fire in the house.'"

We have next an anecdote of Miss O'Neil, at Worcester, where she lodged " with a gentleman, whose admiration of his native place was enthusiastic; and one day he persuaded her to a promenade, promising her a splendid view from Rainbow Hill. During the ascent, he repeatedly entreated her not to turn before he gave the word; and when they reached the point of view, expecting her, no doubt, to be lost in rapture, he exultingly exclaimed, Now, madam!' She turned, and nearly annihilated my friend, by coolly saying to her brother, 'You may tell \_\_\_\_\_, the manager, I shall not come for less than the 100%!' And not a single observation did she make on one of the most beautiful views in the world!'

We go on picking and choosing :-"Performers had better beg for bread than continue on the stage when the infirmities of age, or the caprice of taste, subjects them first age, or the caprice of taste, subjects them first to indifference, and finally contempt. A sexagenarian manager was reasoned with on his intention to play a juvenile tragedy hero, and he replied, in anger, 'Why, I've played George Barnwell for forty years, and it's damned hard if I can't play him now!'"

The author's opinion and anecdotes of Macready are thoroughly to our tests.

distinguished artist is the most unjust that can be imagined. I believe it still exists, though with less violence than heretofore; but even now he the square than heretoner; but even now he is the terror of country theatres. My antipathies against him were strongly excited by the reports of my brother actors; and I treated him with a rudeness, which, at this hour, I remember with compunction. A few years after, I apologised for my conduct, because my in-creased experience increased my respect for the consequence of a tragedian; and I felt the infirmities and sensitiveness of a man, so deserv-ingly eminent as Macready, should be endured at least. He has a fair excuse in the insolent self-sufficiency of performers for the excitement of his ill-humour; and I found the reserve of genius was mistaken for hauteur. Macready genius was mistaken for hauteur. Macready shews nothing but the becoming pride of a gentleman; and if actors were more accommodating, he would be less irritable. As an actor he is faultless, for he conceives with judgment, and executes with truth. He is Virginius, and Hamlet, and Tell, as completely as if the souls of his heroes had entered him when he assumed the garb of each character. Nothing could rouse him from his identity in the scene, if the actors were only perfect; not even the uproar of an overflowing half-price, than which the confusion of Babel is not more confounding. Once, however, I saw him at fault in the Shrewsbury theatre in William Tell. The Shrewsbury butchers are proverbially a noisy crew; and on the night of his benefit the crowd and confusion was so terrific, Macready ' stuck dead' in player parlance; and after many unsuccessful efforts, obtained a pause in the storm, and addressed his friends thus: 'Ladies and gentlemen, I have played William Tell many, many times; but, indeed, the frightful noise you make entirely drives the recollection of the words from me.' An awful silence ensued for a moment, when a bull-like voice shouted from the gallery, 'Why you have a good house, you

, so go on, go on!' and he did go on,
though he appeared annihilated by the rude
command."

There are too many men of the mental calibre of the Shrewsbury butcher, in every auditory, who have no more idea of the sensibilities of a really sterling performer, who by a strong effort of feeling and genius identifies himself with his part, than—than of the music of the spheres.

Mr. Dyer does not mind a joke at himself-Tavistock.

"On one occasion we played Lovers' Vows; "On one occasion we played Lovers' Yows; and when Frederick inquired, 'Is there a doctor in the village?' a matter-of-fact countryman replied in a tone of sympathy, 'Oh yes, sur, there's Old Parfit, the horse-doctor, lives up in town.' On my first performance of William, in Black-Eyed Susan, my musical powers being rather deficient. I sang the verse. being rather deficient, I sang the verse,

All in the Downs the fleet was moored.' &c.

to the tune of the Storm; when a kind, weakhearted ceature, dissolved in tears at my sup-posed sorrows, sobbed aloud, 'Poor fellow, he's so cut up, he's forgot the tune!'

Our next are also fair provincial bits :-"Manley's pride in the reputation of his performers is an admirable trait in his character. 'It is all very fine, sir,' said he to a distinguished star; 'it's all very fine, sir; yet you see they don't care for you; but only mark how my boys will bring it down in the farce !'if I can't play him now!"

An old lady being questioned on the absence of The author's opinion and anecdotes of Macready are thoroughly to our taste.

"The prejudice felt, he tells us, against this since! When my servants ate potatoes they

did nothing but quarrel; they are now the most peaceable domestics in the world, because I have forbade the use of potatoes. What is I have forbade the use of potatoes. What is the cause of the rebellions in Ireland?—why, potatoes! What makes the Irish such a passionate, headstrong people ? - the immoderate use of potatoes! And if government wish to tranquillise that unhappy country, they must entirely forbid the use of potatoes.' I am not certain that Manley is a great consumer of this denounced vegetable; but he is an Irishman, and impetuous."

and impetuous."

This Manley "acted before his majesty
George III. at Weymouth, when the farce of
the Spoiled Child (a favourite of the king's) was played; and a remarkably masculine woman sustained the character of Miss Pickle. On lighting their majesties to their carriage, the king said to the manager, 'Very good, very good, Hughes; farce well played, well played !-clever man that Miss Pickle; clever man, clever man !' ' Man ?' exclaimed Hughes, your majesty is deceived; the person who sustained Miss Pickle is Mrs. —, a very respectable woman?' 'No, no, Hughes,' rejoined the laughing monarch—'a man, Hughes—a man, a man!' 'With all submission,' rejoined the astonished manager, 'I assure your majesty Mrs. — is a woman!' 'It won't do, it won't do, Hughes,' continued the delighted sovereign; 'a man, Hughes, a man !hey, Charlotte, hey? hey?—clever man, Hughes—saw his beard, saw his beard—his beard !- a man, Hughes, a man !' The next morning Hughes entered the green-room, and addressed the assembled company: 'Ladies and gentlemen, I am happy to tell you their majesties were very much gratified by the performance of last night-much gratified ! And (turning to Mrs. - who sat in gigantic dignity in one corner of the room,) I am most happy in saying, madam, that his majesty par-ticularly noticed you!' 'God bless the king!' ticularly noticed you!' exclaimed the delighted lady. 'And the queen also distinguished you,' continued Hughes.' Lord love them!' said the lady, 'I saw they were looking at me, bless their dear hearts,' Yes,' said Hughes.' 'Yes,' said Hughes, 'his majesty was vastly pleased.' 'May the king live for ever!' reioined Mrs. oined Mrs. —, brightening with smiles. But his majesty,' proceeded Hughes, — ' God bless him, 'interrupted Mrs. — 'His majesty insists that you are a man!' 'The nasty beast!' cried Mrs. \_\_\_\_\_, as she rose with offended dignity and stalked out of the room."

We never heard the following story of the finale of Incledon: —" Braham's success gave him great uneasiness; and when Sinclair appeared, he said, 'Ay, they want to knock me up; first, they brought a Jew's-harp against me, and now they bring a Scotch Fiddle.' The last song Incledon ever sang, was in the kit-chen of the Rein-Deer, Mealcheapen Street, Worcester. He attended the glee-club as usual, but he declined singing, and left the room rather depressed in spirits. By mere accident he strolled into the kitchen; and recovering his good humour, gathered the ser-vants about him, and gave them ' Now, farewell, my trim-built wherry,' in most brilliant style; and then, lapsing into gloom, he left the

house. Not long after he died."

We wonder what Mr. Jesse would say to another assertion!

" It is a fact, that men after the age of sixty cannot hear the grasshopper's song !! We have abstained from all allusion to the

intrigues, jealousies, and squabbles of pro-vincial theatrical life. It is the same every where; and not more dignified in Drury Lane time for our meeting, by giving them the alter-llover of nature, as they have struck him in

than in a barn at Barnstaple. Even the author, we see, though he denounces the general partialities, prejudice, and injustice, is not himself free from them; witness the different manner in which he speaks of Miss Foote who offended. and Miss Love who behaved kindly to him. It is not quite true, as Dr. Johnson said rather enviously of Garrick, that Punch has no feelings; but it is strictly true that the Punches of the Drama do not feel like any other class of people. And who can be surprised, since the "diverting vagabonds," always engaged in the attempt to delight others, enjoy so little of what is delightful themselves, are always in the turmoil of a contest for popular applause, and rarely fail of coming to penury and want?
"My associations (says Mr. D.) have been

with apparently the most fortunate; and I grieve to say not one of the number went down to the narrow house in comfort. What then has been, or will be, the fate of the vast professional majority who live on low salaries, or the precarious pittance of sharing schemes? what but cheerless pillows and charitable We look to the metropolis for theatrical fortunes, and we find some members of the profession with splendid accumulations of wealth; but then how few in comparison with those who breathe in the Bench, figure in the Insolvent Court, or 'sicken with hope deferred' in the parlour of the well-known Harp Tavern!

" A single page would contain the names of all the actors who have died in the possession of their acquired riches. A volume might be filled by those whose delinquencies have left them scarcely wherewithal to purchase the nails for a coffin.'

" It is (he states elsewhere) acting out of doors that alone secures success; and no state lin, &c." is so truly dependant as that of an actor."

Mr. Dyer retired, because he felt that he had no chance of educating his family of five children in the path he could wish, if he remained on the stage; and he states several instances of the vivid impressions made upon juvenile minds by seeing individuals, received in honourable society, personate villanous characters. In one or two instances he is a little coarse, p. 105, and also in an account of a Desdemona, 224; though the last is certainly very Indicrous.

Of our London magnates Mr. D. is no admirer. He came to town to seek a trial, and tells us:

" There were three agents, who professed to procure provincial actors situations in the London theatres; and being introduced to Kenneth, of Bow Street, as the man all-sufficient, I neglected calling on the honest Smythson, or the far-famed Syms, the presiding deity of the 'harp-office.' Kenneth first proposed my playing at the Cobourg theatre; but I had a strong dislike to the minors, and I refused. He then arranged two meetings with Charles Kemble, which, he neglecting to attend, Kenneth immediately went down to Drury Lane, and fixed an interview with Price and Cooper, for the next day. Accident prevented my being in time, and a message was left requesting my presence the following day; when we met, and I went through the mockery of a rehearsal in a scene of Gambia, and a scene of Macbeth, with Mr. Cooper for my Zelinda, and Lady Macbeth, and the lessee, my agent, an under prompter, and two or three idlers, as my judges. It has been a matter of wonder to me ever since how I submitted to this humiliation; for I had resisted the attempt to appoint another

native of seeing me then, or not at all; and I can only account for it by an indifference as to the issue, when I perceived the lukewarmness of my reception. Price, if he did not underor my reception. Frice, in the did not uncerstand my apathy, must have thought me a vile impostor. Cooper, on conducting me through the intricacies of the scenery, said, 'I am afraid you will not find your way out.' 'Oh, 'I replied, 'the only difficulty here is to find the way in.' An acute friend ever advised against my going to London until my services were wanted; and, perhaps, had I delayed, advantageous terms might have been made, for my reputation evidently gained me the interview with Price at my own time; when (on the authority of my agent) many actors, with powerful recommendations, had waited for months, and were still waiting to get speech with him. On the whole, I rejoice I was not wanted. I am happy that my kinder fortune had better things in store for me than a collision with the interests of London actors, and a participation in the debaucheries of London theatres. My limited stay in town, and hurried visits to the theatres, unfit me for a critical dissertation on metropolitan acting; but my impressions were by no means favourable, as I looked in vain for a mediocrity of talent amongst the subordinates; and without efficient aid from them, the efforts of the most eminent lost half their Except in the magnificence of the houses, the splendour of dress and decorations, and the transcendent merit of two or three in each line of the drama, London theatricals are infinitely inferior to provincial; and I assert, without fear of contradiction, that the inferior members of a barn are better than their fellows in the minor theatres; and the secondaries of the major are excelled by those of Bath, Dub-

At a preceding period, "Bunn condescended to give me directions in Leicester; but I had a distaste for his character, and I did not like the motive of Sir Giles Overreach to 'learn any thing and of any creature to make thee great, yea, of the devil himself."

The volume, altogether, is a fair epitome of the stage and its followers in spirit and in circumstance; and will well repay in amusement the time necessary for its perusal.

The Naturalist's Library: Mammalia. Vol. II. 12mo. pp. 276. The Felinæ. By Sir W. Jar-dine, Bart. Edinburgh, 1834, Lizars; Stir-ling and Kenney; London, Longman and Co.; Dublin, Curry, jun. and Co.

The Feathered Tribes of the British Islands. By Robert Mudie. 2 vols. 12mo. London, 1834, Whittaker and Co.; Edinburgh, Waugh and Innes; Dublin, Cumming.

Gleanings in Natural History. Second Series. To which are added some Extracts from the unpublished MSS. of the late Mr. White of Selborne. By Edward Jesse, Esq. Surveyor of his Majesty's Parks, Palaces, &c. 12mo. pp. 321. London, 1834. Murray.

THESE three pleasant publications have reached us within the last ten days, in the order in which we have placed them, and, being all of very different character, have been perused in turn, with more or less of instruction, gratification, and amusement. The first is of much scientific interest, very ably executed, and the plates correct and beautiful. The latest information is given; where there is doubt, excellent conjectures are thrown out; and the whole intelligence is of the foremost order for any work, and particularly for a work of this class. The second gives the impressions of a

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fields and forests. Mr. Mudie does not pretend met with among us, as to make it no easy to science, but describes well; and, with well-matter to decide, by the aid of drawings, and arities—all that belongs to them; and to illustrate these with remarkable instances of the way in which they have been developed. The examples are very entertaining, and make an excellent sequel to his first series, of which we spoke so favourably at the time of publication— an opinion since amply confirmed by the public.

The familiar memoir of Cuvier is prefixed to Sir W. Jardine's volume; for this is one of the cases of competition and rivalry which so frequently serve to perplex us in these days of cheap series. We do not mean to accuse the present book of being imitative or inferior; but quite the contrary. We have no hesita-tion in declaring it to be by far the best publication of its class, in every respect, which we have seen. The Felinæ are a numerous and most interesting genera, consisting of the Leo, Puma, Felis, Cynailurus, (only one, the C. Jubata, the maned hunting leopard), and Lynchus.

Of all, the accounts are consise and clear. We select an example any where-the Felis

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doubt. nd the ler for of this s of a im in "The specimen I have named conditionally Colocolo? from Molina, seems to terminate this little group, and, by the character of its markings, to approximate to the servals and tiger-cats of the Old World. It does not appear certain, though it may be probable, that this is the animal Molina indicated as the Colocolo, as he calls the marks spots, and not streaks; at least the word is so translated. This fierce animal was shot in the interior of Guiana, by an officer of Lewenstein's riflemen, and by him stuffed and sent to England, for his Royal Highness the Duke of York; but probably never reached its destination. whimsical occurrence took place with it. The gentleman who had shot it, placed it on the awning of the boat to air, as he was descend-ing the river Paramaribo; the boat often passed under the branches of large trees, which overhung the river, and on which were the resting-places of numerous monkeys, sometimes hanging to the extremest branches above the water. Although the vessel would on other occasions excite but little attention, no sooner was the stuffed specimen in sight, than the whole community would troop off with prodigious screams and howlings. It was of course surmised, from the excessive terror of these animals, that this species of cat must be an active enemy to them."

an active enemy to them."

The description of the Egyptian cat is particularly deserving of notice, inasmuch as "there can be no doubt but that from it is descended the domestic cat of the ancient Egyptians. It is a well-known fact, that this nation, of which nothing now remains but some monuments, but he people to the some monuments, had brought up the cat to be a domestic animal, as may be judged by the cat-mummies, and their representations on the

coloured representations of our native birds, is an account of figure, which of them is to be considered as the type for our domestic animal.

We have strictly compared the wild cat of a fit companion for the enjoyment of rural senery. The last is of a more anecdotical kind. Mr. Jesse also delights in the quiet investigation of nature, and, like White of careful examination, found that there is among Selborne, whose remains he so consonantly us a kind of grey-white cat, possessed of the quotes, is fond of observing the habits of principal features of the Felis maniculata; such animals, their curious instincts, their peculi- as the eight small streaks on the forehead, the two streaks running along the cheeks, and the two rings around the chest, and likewise the cross streaks and bands on the extremities. We have farther observed in the same kind the thin long tail, and a size of the body perfectly similar with our Felis maniculata. Another similarity is its disposition for propagating, under the same roof, for many years, pagating, under the same root, for many years, provided the external circumstances remain unchanged. All this, taken together, must strongly favour the opinion, that Felis maniculata is the type of our domestic cat, as the Egyptians undoubtedly had domesticated this animal much sooner than the Europeans. Still there are, on the other hand, among the variethese are, on the other hand, among the varieties of our domestic cats, many which have all the characteristic features of the wild cats of our forests, such as few, broad, widely-separated streaks on the head, 8-12 similar streaks on the lateral parts of the animal, the short, thick, and woolly tail, with four or more black rings, and a body larger by one-third, and so forth."

We would add a conjecture, that the Himalayan Serval, of which only one is known (in the Surrey Zoological Garden), bears a striking resemblance to some of our domestic cats. Of one of the latter, among other stories, the fol-

attachment or fancy, in the common cat, took place with one which we have often seen in attendance upon the watchman in St. James' Square, Edinburgh. When the man com-menced his rounds, the cat was as regularly menced his rounds, the cat was as regularly at his post, and continued walking with him during the whole night. This continued, we believe, for nearly two years; and when we last saw the man, the cat was in his company. Upon the approach of any person, the cat would run up to the guardian of the night, and rub against his legs until the individual had passed. In the quieter hours, towards morning, he ventured to a greater distance; but would always appear at the call or whistle of his protector. his protector.

There is a singular breed of cats frequent in Cornwall, and also in the Isle of Man, without any tail. This is analogous to a similar breed of shepherds' dogs, which are much more frequent. Sir Stamford Raffles also mentions a breed in the Malayan Archipelago, with a is also said to exist in Madagascar."

Mr. Mudie's work, being more descriptive, is not so readily exhibited by quotation. The preface is ill written; though the author says.

"I should suppose that most of what I have written must appear so ragged and incomplete out of its connexion, that my book will escape the inglorious martyrdom of being hacked and hawked in pennyworths, ere it has had even a chance for life.

ing, and useful hints for every department of science and pursuit, to say nothing of wellsinewed limbs, and hearts tuned for enjoyment, that are to be met with there, and met with in abundance by all who will but take the trouble of seeing with their own eyes and hearing with their own ears."

We shall select a passage which will afford a very perfect idea of Mr. Mudie's better style and method throughout the body of his production.

"The yellow bunting, yellow hammer, yow-ley, yaldrine, or many other provincial names (the number of which prove its abundance), is one of the handsomest of our resident birds. A figure of the male in the breeding plumage, onethird of the lineal dimensions, is given on the plate at p. 369, vol. i. The female has the yellow on the head and under part less bright, partially marked with a greyish tinge on the former, and with brownish orange on the latter. The bill of the female is also more dusky, and the feet not so yellow a brown. The males, in their first plumage, resemble the female. The female, though not so rich in plumage as the male, is yet a very beautiful bird. The brown upon the back is peculiarly warm, and the pale yellow and darker tints on the other parts run very softly into each other, while the markings on the back are clear and distinct, without any approach to hardness. The yellow bunting is a bird of the corn-fields, or at least of the richer parts of the country; and though it is very common in England, and the greater part of Scotland, it is not found in the Orkney or Shetland Isles. It nestles in low bushes, or in close herbage, and bestows considerable pains upon its nest, which is constructed externally of coarse dry grass and fibres, lined with finer ones, and finished with a coating of hair. The eggs are four or five, very pale purplish white in the ground, and marked with dots and lines of chocolate colour, the line often terminating in a dot, in the same way as tears, or falling drops, are sometimes represented. It breeds rather late, the young not being fledged till June. The love song is a repetition of the same tuneless note, ending in a sort of screech; the call-note, which is generally uttered on the wing, is a simple chirp; and when the bird is disturbed, it has a third cry—a sort of com-plaining one; but all its cries are mere noises. The abundance and beauty of these birds do not, in any way, win them favour. Boys destroy the nests of yellow buntings from mere wantonness, and in some parts of the country break their eggs with a sort of superstitious abhorrence. The bird does not haunt cairns which have been collected over graves in the wilds, and thereby associate itself with the terrors of these, as is the case with the wheat-ear; neither does it abound most about those other places which popular superstition is prone to invest with supernatural terrors, and to link with the malignant powers of the spiritual world. It is a bird of the fields and the day-light, offending in nothing, except the want of song be an offence; and certainly not so disagreeable in that way, or so destructive of small seeds in gardens as the house-sparrow; but still it is a marked bird; and the very beauty of its eggs are, in some places, made a ground for their wanton destruction. According to the absurd superstition, the parent birds are fed each with onuments of Thebes. A question arises monuments of Thebes. A question arises only, whether this domestic cat might have been bequeathed or transferred by the Egyptians to the contemporary civilised Europeans? Great difficulties lie in the way of giving a played in nature itself, into the fields, that they gave rise to superstition, the parent birds are led each with a drop of the devil's blood! of the morning of May-day; and that infernal draught taints the eggs with those streaks and 'gouts' which, in truth, make them so beautiful. What first pread difficulties lie in the way of giving a played in nature itself, into the fields, that they gave rise to superstitions so absurd, and so constatisfactory answer to this question, in as far a knowledge, rational and even profound think-institute of spiritual beings, it is not easy to say; but, to the credit of the times, they are fast wearing out. Instead of there being any thing repulsive about the yellow bunting, it is, song apart, one of the most interesting of our little birds, and one which we can study summer and winter. In the spring and summer it frequents the hedges, bushes, and copses, but not the thick forests. It is very assiduous in the duties of its little household. The female sits so closely, that she will suffer herself to be taken rather than expose her eggs to the cold; the male at times feeds her; and when she flies out for a little. he takes her place during her absence; so that after the incubation begins, the eggs are never longer exposed than the time that the birds require to shift places. The unfledged young are attended to with similar assiduity; and both parents toil hard in supplying them with food and keeping them clean. When winter comes, the yellow buntings resort to more open places; and as they are swift-winged, and alight in finer style than most birds, they are continually dropping down on the beaten paths, in the farm yards, and even in the streets of towns, when the fields are covered with snow."

We now come to Mr. Jesse, whose details are briefer, less systematic, and more animated. Mr. Mudie's is a general description of native birds, and prettily illustrated by engravings. Mr. Jesse's volume is in truth "Gleanings" from the common mass of natural history, reflections suggested by his love of the sylvan world, and, as we have stated, curious particulars of matters he has witnessed or heard in the course of his pleasing pursuits. His book is accordingly ready made for a cento of extracts. Ex. gr. The affection of animals for their

young:

" In riding about the King's Parks, I have frequently observed a doe come up to a dog, who has approached the lair where her fawn was concealed, and putting her feet together, she has made a spring and alighted upon the dog, frequently either maining or killing it. A friend of mine observed an instance of this courage in a doe. He was walking in Hagley Park, Worcestershire, with a party of friends, when the discharge of a gamekeeper's gun reverberated through the trees and hills of that lovely scene. Soon afterwards a bleeding fawn bounded by, followed by the keeper's hound, and, in close pursuit of the hound, came a doe, the dam of the wounded fawn. Loss of blood (which, trickling down copiously, marked the course of the poor alarmed creature) so weak-ened it, that the dog soon brought it to the ground near the spot where the party stood observing the incident. The parent doe, losing all her natural timidity in affection for her off-spring, attacked the hound with the utmost ferocity; nor did the interference of the keeper intimidate her. Having terminated the sufferings of her young one with his knife, he carried it from the place: and when the dam, as if agitated by excessive grief, had surveyed the pool of blood, she followed the dead fawn and its destroyers, uttering a tremulous cry of maternal distress. This cry I often hear during the season for killing fawns, and it is one of peculiar agony. An instance of this affection of beasts for their young recently occurred in Bushy Park. A cow, for some reason or other, was driven from that place and sold in Smith-field market, her calf being left at the head keeper's yard in the park. Early the next morning she was found at the gate of the yard, having made her way through all the intricacies and impediments of London, and traversed twelve miles of road in order to get to her calf again. She must also have watched

the opportunity when the park-gates were opened to get through them."

A page or two on, there is an almost incredible story of a cat suckling a mouse; only we observe that Mr. Jesse always vouches for the

veracity of his informants.

" A cat belonging to Mr. Smith, the respectable bailiff and agent of the Earl of Lucan, at Laleham, is in the constant habit of taking her place on the rug before the parlour fire. She had been deprived of all her litter of kittens but one, and her milk probably incommoded her. I mention this, in order to account in some degree for the following circumstance. One evening as the family were seated round the fire, they observed a mouse make its way from the cupboard which was near the fire-place, and lay itself down on the stomach of the cat, as a kitten would do when she is going to suck Surprised at what they saw, and afraid of disturbing the mouse, which appeared to be full grown, they did not immediately ascertain whether it was in the act of sucking or not. After remaining with the cat a considerable length of time, it returned to the cupboard. These visits were repeated on several other occasions, and were witnessed by many persons. The cat not only appeared to expect the mouse, but uttered that sort of greeting purr which the animal is so well known to make use of when she is visited by her kitten. The mouse had every appearance of being in the act of sucking the cat; but such was its vigilance, that it retreated as soon as a hand was put out to take it up. When the cat, after being absent, returned to the room, her greeting call was made, and the mouse came to her. The attachment which existed between these two incongruous animals could not be mistaken, and it lasted some time. The fate of the mouse, like that of most pets, was a melancholy one During the absence of its nurse, a strange cat came into the room. The poor mouse, mis-taking her for its old friend and protectress, ran out to meet her, and was immediately seized and slain before is could be rescued from her clutches. The grief of the foster-mother was extreme. On returning to the parlour she made her usual call, but no mouse came to meet her. She was restless and uneasy, went mewing about the house, and shewed her distress in the most marked manner. What rendered the anecdote I have been relating the more extraordinary, is the fact of the cat being an excellent mouser, and that during the time she was shewing so much fondness for the mouse, she was preying upon others with the utmost avidity. She is still alive."

A mole-catcher, worthy of belief, assured the author, "that previous to the setting in of winter the mole prepares a sort of basin, forming it in a bed of clay which will hold about a quart. In this basin a great quantity of worms are deposited; and in order to prevent their escape they are partly mutilated, but not so much so as to kill them. On these worms the moles feed during the winter months. He also informed me that he finds the basins in much fewer numbers some years than others; and when this is the case, he always knows that the winter will be a mild one."

Some of the anecdotes of swallows shew that

these birds possess strong powers of instinct.

"A pair of swallows built their nest under the arch of a lime-kiln at its extreme point, and from which three chimneys or flues branched off. At the time the nest was constructing, the heat of the kiln was so great, that only keeping the hand for a short time within the arch produced a painful sensation. In this spot, however, the

nest was nearly completed, when the heat caused it to crumble and fall to the ground. A second nest was built on the same spot, and afterwards a third, both of which shared the same fate. A fourth nest was then built, which stood perfectly well, although the heat of the kiln had by no means abated; and in this nest the swallows hatched and brought up their young. The following year another nest was begun and finished in the same spot, and with the same heat in the kiln, which stood the influence of the fire, and in which the swallows hatched and reared their brood; and this was done in the same manner on the third year. The fourth year the swallows did not appear, which the lime-burner considered as very ominous of the future success of his kiln. They had probably been destroyed. In reading the above account, of the accuracy of which no doubt need be entertained, as the most satisfactory proof of it can at any time be brought forward, it is impossible not to be struck with the following facts :-1st, the swallows must have discovered and worked up a sort of clay or earth which would stand heat; 2d, instinct alone would not have taught them to do this; 3d, on returning to the kiln the second and third years, they must have kept in their recollection not only the fact. that the earth they commonly used to build their nests with would not stand heat, but must also have remembered the sort of earth or clav which was requisite, and the necessity of their making use of it in that particular place."

A little farther on, Mr. J. says:—
"It is a common trick amongst the Thames fishermen in this neighbourhood to send a newcomer, late in the evening, with the offer of some small reward, to an ayte which is covered with swallows, one of which he is to catch with his hand. I am assured that such is the vigilance and activity of these birds, that, however dark the night, and however great the caution used, no one instance has occurred of a bird being taken in the manner I have mentioned."

So far from this being the case, we only last year saw a whole hatful caught by the hand in the ayte opposite to Chiswick: they were stripped off the willows like blackberries, and any quantity might have been taken.

(To be concluded in our next.)

The Hamiltons; or, the New Era. By the Author of "Mothers and Daughters." 3 vols. 12mo. London, 1834. Saunders and Otley. Mrs. Gone is undeniably one of the wittiest writers of the present day; and nothing skims more lightly over the surface of society than does her flying pen. There is no profound emotion, but a great deal of lively perception, in her pages. Her observation is not deep; but it is acute. Imagination, that high and creative power, she has none; but she has an animated fancy, that lights up the real and the commonplace. Her style is full of vivacity, and her epithets perfection. Is not the following picture of a small, quiet, country town taken from nature?—

"Scarcely a town in England but possesses its coigne of vantage." Brighton prides itself

upon its versity; buttons : every pla neat ob of Norths pique itse maiden overlooke no less th the strike which ag to gover terrors of engine 8 Although Laxingto orn-mill leigh Ha distinctio town. fact deep confessor tened up of a sing ing lease

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In another place we find another opinion, which we can rectify from personal knowledge. Mr. Jesse says, "Various attempts have been made by persons with whom I wan equatined to propage of trees, and by inserting in the bark: but the attempt has hitherto failed, as far as I can speak from my own observation." At Little dries, the mistletoe was propagated in luxuriant abundance on apple-trees, in the garden of a gentleman who was eminent as a horticulturist in the earliest days of the cultivation of that science as a science. We have no doubt the plants are still thriving there,—Ed. L. G.

open its royal marino; Oxford upon its University; Birmingham upon its factories of buttons; Chester upon its cellars of cheese; every place upon its something! Laxington, a neat obscure borough, some ten miles N.N.E. lary, hovering upon his lips; and young George of Northampton, had long been accustomed to pique itself upon its gentility! A coterie of of Northampton, had long been accustomed to pique itself upon its gentility! A coterie of maiden and widow ladies, whose domiciles overlooked its grass-grown market-place, were no less thankful to Providence for sparing them the strikes, frame-breakings, and incendiarisms, which agitate a manufacturing population, than which agitate a manufacturing population, than to government for securing them from the terrors of a garrison. No 'captain bold' disturbed their 'country quarters;' no steamengine smoked to defile their snowy dimity. Although a rapid stream gurgled through the Laxington meadows, so little were the inhabiants disposed to speculation, that a solitary sound was to be heard there on the stillest day, but the dinner-bells of Weald Park and Everleigh Hall, two family seats of some mark and distinction, within a mile's distance from the town. The thrones and dominions established in authority over the Laxingtonians were in fact deeply interested in maintaining their selfsatisfied mediocrity. The borough, close as a confessor, was the property of the Earl of Totconcessor, was the property of the Earl of Tot-tenham, whose agent (a wealthy attorney, fat-ened upon the office,) was careful not to aug-ment the revenues of his employer by the sale of a single inch of ground calculated for building leases or the manufacture of manufactories: while the vicar, another delegate of his lord-ship's, was no less assiduous to repress the institution of any society or association tending towards the spirit of enlightenment, so active and so mischievous elsewhere. A single Sunday-school sufficed the ignorance of the poor; a single whist-club the social wants of the rich. The names of Bell and Lancaster were eschewed as a abomination; a proposal for a reading-room was denounced as Jacobinical, and of mischievous intent. The vicar and the attor-ney—nay! even the attorney's sister, Miss Pen. Smith, the most active-minded inhabitant of the place - were content with Lord Tottenham's second day's Courier and the weekly intelligence of the County Chronicle. Newspapers and magazines would have been productive of political discussions; — political discussions, of squabbles among neighbours hiberto united and content. Things were better as they were. The borough could not be kept to quiet; nor the earl's deputy be too watchful against innovations. In this desire for tranquillity, the place and the people appeared to coincide. The very chimes of the church go out of order, and were condemned. No whereabout for a rookery was to be found among the pollard willows, flourishing in green luxuriance in the circumjacent meadows. In the High street, as in a cathedral close, the mere sound of a brife or index. of a knife-grinder's wheel seemed to impress the inhabitants with terror; and the traveller, making to contemplate the white walls of Laxington, lying compact and motionless amid its redant pastures, was apt to compare it to a well-fed cat, purring itself to sleep in the sun-shine. The Laxingtonians would, however, have been less vain of their gentility and of possessing no manufacture but that of members of parliament, had not the deficiency been compensated by what is provincially called 'an excellent neighbourhood.'"

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upon the treasury as his patrimony—upon the duties of office as the virtues of his vocation. and upon the stability of Tory ascendency as the immutability of the universe! The very soul within him was steeped in officiality! From the moment a man of ordinary faculties is thrown into the vortex of official life, all trace of his individual nature is lost for ever! Thenceforward he exists but as a cipher of the national debt-a fraction of administration-a leaf upon the mighty oak we claim as the emblem of Britain. There is no mistaking an official man. All trades and professions have their slang and their charlatanism; and that of a privy counsellor, although of a higher tone, is a no less inveterate jargon than that of a horse-dealer. Long practice had rendered this technical dialect a mother-tongue to Mr. Hamilton. His arguments abounded in ministerial mysticism; his jokes were parliamentary; his notes of invitation formal as official documents. His anecdotes were authenticated by dates; he spoke as if before a committee, or acting under the in-fluence of the whipper-in. He scarcely knew how to leave a room, without the ceremony of pairing off; or to hazard an opinion, lest he should be required to justify it to his party! To such a man, the incidents of private life were of trivial account. His friends might die when it suited them. Mr. Hamilton was too much accustomed to see places filled up, to fancy any loss irreparable; and as to births and mar-riages, what were they but drawbacks on the velocity of the great vehicle of public business? velocity of the great venue of passas. No All was activity with him and about him. No The time for pause, or prose, or deliberation. The business of the state, like that of the sun, must march, and Hamilton was steady at his post. In the utmost relaxation of private life, it was evident that one eye, and one compartment of his mind, were engaged elsewhere—entangled in some labyrinth of cabinet chicane, or devising some new project for the glorification of government. He was, in fact, indispensable to his party; not as a man of genius, but as a man of business ! "

Next come two shrewd remarks :-

"The English are always most fond of a minister of domestic habits. They loved Per-ceval the better for being a trifle hen-pecked. It is not of one of their own lawgivers they would exclaim-

"Curse on his virtues!-they've undone his country."

"Women are apt to revere, as the pious are women are apt to revere, as the pions are said to rejoice, with trembling. They dearly love the despot whose despotism they denounce. From the omnipotent Sultan to the petty tyrants of May Fair, Blue Beard is sure of his Odalisques!"

How neat is the ensuing little bit of dia-

logue !-

logue!—
"' I am thinking of going into the army, by way of getting bullied out of my turbulence of spirit. Nothing like military discipline for taming down a bad temper." But yours was never a bad temper! 'cried Susan, indignantly, taking his defence against himself; 'only a little passionate.' 'Aha! my little Susy! how plainly the married woman breaks out in your having learned to recognise that distinction without a difference!'"

Another, weed of Mrs. Gone's talent is her.

entertaining work.

#### POETICAL WORKS.

WE are accused of having done some wrong to Helicon by encouraging little bits of streamlets and rills, which never would have meandered near the confines of Parnassus but for our irrigating drains, cuts, and slopes; and truly we have occasionally thought that we did, as it were, dig a few ditches where the pure stream could hardly gurgle on in motion: but even then there was no great harm done. Like the River Arnon, and the Brook Kedron, they were all soon lost in the Dead Sea; into which even the famed Jordan itself has but a run, and is swallowed up: and there they evaporated in gentle exhalations, mingled insensibly with the native sulphur and bitumen of that obnoxious water, which so aptly represents the abyss of angry and choking criticism.

Perhaps our present paper is but a repetition of our weakness; but so long as volumes of poetry are published, in sooth we must notice them, or our Gazette would be an imperfect epitome of the literature of its time. As there is not much, however, upon our recent list, in this kind, which demands more than a passing word, we shall not need to trespass at any length upon the patience of our readers.

length upon the patience of our readers.

1. The last Evening of Catanie; with other Poems. By W. H. Spicer. 12mo. pp. 175. London, 1834. Longman and Co.—The production of youth, full of good feeling, and not deficient in tenderness and taste. There is nothing beyond to call for extract; though the cultivation of his talent may promise higher

Truits to Mr. Spicer's ambition.

2. Job; a Dramatic Poem. By Richard Whiffin, 8vo. pp. 124. London, Smith, Elder, and Co. — Mr. Whiffin is known to the public of the beauty of the truit of the beauty of the truit of the beauty of the truit of truit of the truit of truit of the truit of truit of the truit of as the author of the "Elegies of Tibullus, and other poetical productions. Job is a laboured essay; but we fear that it was impossible for any paraphrastic attempt to improve upon the immortal original.

3. The Lay of Life. By Hans Busk. 12mo. pp. 246. London, Simpkin and Marshall; Chapple; Carpenter and Son.—An amiable didactic and philosophical effusion, honourable to the head and heart of the writer. The life of man is reflectively traced, and in a style which in other days would have obtained more attention to the author than he is likely to attract in these our days of hurried action, not attract in these our days of nurried action, not of thought. The Lyra Attica, a series of shorter poems which follow the chief "Lay," are writ-ten in a similar spirit, and shew good sense and

ten in a similar spirit, and shew good sense and good feelings happily combined.

4. Songs and Poems. By Charles Mackay.
Pp. 124. London, Cochrane and M'Crone.—
A neat little vignette says, "Vide the Winds;" so to the Winds we looked (p. 54), just as if we could see them as pigs do; and we found that the reference was to a very sweet and that the reference was to a very sweet and pretty little poem, which reflected much credit on a youthful aspirant to poetic fame. The wind had been

"Where the billows rose up as the lightnings flew by,
And twisted their arms in the dun-coloured sky;" The ensuing portrait is a pendant to the above having learned to recognise that distinction without a difference!'"

Another proof of Mrs. Gore's talent is her donian Asylum; and if educated there, the late proprietor of Weald, was essentially an late unit-coloured system. The author, we gather from the dedication, was an innate of the Cale.

Another proof of Mrs. Gore's talent is her donian Asylum; and if educated there, the late in adopting the taste of the times. Radi-Institution has a right to be congratulated. The pieces are all very slight and short, but all breathing a fair degree of fancy, and a kind

and gentle spirit.

5. Poems, chiefy Religious. By the Rev. H. F. Lyte, A.M. Pp. 165. London, Nisbet.—Fervently pious, and also pleasing in poetical composition. Every page impresses morality

and religion.

6. O Fluminense. By a Utilitarian. Pp. 85. London, Orr and Smith; Manchester, Robinson. — We thought Utilitarians would have nothing to do with such worthless ware as poesy. Nevertheless, the author, having been intended by nature for a tradesman, has become a rhymester, in consequence of being sent to the Brazils, whose beautiful and enchanting regions inspired him - so he tells us; and also that his "poem is strictly commercial." No matter, it is a clever performance—owing to its subjects possessing a good deal of originality; and some of the shorter pieces introduced (par-ticularly one at page 9) are very natural and touching.

7. Whistlings, Hummings, and Rhymes. By A Plowman. Pp. 26. Oxford.—A very spare publication, with a few masonic and miscellaneous poems.

8. An Appeal to the Ladies, &c. in aid of the Funds for a public Testimonial to Captain Ross. Pp. 6. London, Shaw .- Yet more spare, but devoted to a patriotic purpose. A eulogy on Captain Ross's noble exploit, and an exhortation to his fair country-women to subscribe towards the projected tribute to comme-

9. The Bud: a Collection of Poems. R. R., of Blackheath. Pp. 72. London, Harvey and Darton .- A little volume, chiefly scriptural, and apparently juvenile, from the want

of polish in composition.

## RELIGIOUS PUBLICATIONS.

[In the preceding column we have briefly noticed a few of the poetical volumes which have recently issued from the press; and we now perform the same office with regard to some of the many religious publications which are continually welling out from every side.]

1. The Note-book of a Country Clergyman. Pp. 303. London, 1834. Seeley and Burnside .- An interesting exhibition, through the medium of circumstances which have actually come within the writer's knowledge, of the excellent practical efficacy of the parochial system of the church of England, when diligently and faithfully wrought out. Some of the narratives are of deep and tragic guilt; all of strange vicissitudes in human life, to which the aid of religion was applied.

2. Wilberforce's Practical View, &c. with a Memoir. By the Rev. T. Price. London, Fishers .- The practical view between the practices of professing Christians and real Christianity is well known. The absolute contrast is infinitely stronger than is here drawn. The Memoir adds to the value of the re-pub-

lication.

3. Essay on Moral Tuition. By W. Brand. jun. Pp. 67. London, Wightman. A sensible treatise, which well deserves the consideration of all to whom the instruction of youth is entrusted.

4. Biblical Extracts, &c. By a Young Lady. Pp. 136. London, Baynes and Harris.—Extracts selected from the Bible which relate to the history of the world, from the creation to the period of the prophet Samuel, above 1000 years before Christ.

5. Christian Theology, from the Latin of Benedict Pictet, of Geneva. By F. Reyroux, B. A. Pp. 513. London, Seeley and Sons.—

containing very much in small compass.

6, 7, 8. The Traveller's Prayer. By Dr. A. Clarke. Fourth edition. Lessons on the Lord's Prayer, for the Use of Young Persons. By the Author of " Reasons for Christianity." A Gift for Youth. By a Lady. - Three very small but well-meant productions, which are calculated to do good where they may find their

9. The Northern Light. By W. Quane. Pp. 71. London, Hurst.—Milton must review

this book for us -

No light; but only darkness visible.

THE PUBLISHING TRADE. NO. IX.

HAVING in our last shewn that a publication under the sanction of the Society for the Diffusion of Useful Knowledge, and started for the purpose of bolstering up their trade, had been guilty of a departure from truth and rectitude which would have disgraced the meanest private dealer; we think it would be well of the eminent members of that association to reflect upon the obloquy to which they are thus exposing their names. By poisoning the fairness of criticism through influence, they are inflicting a base injury upon the literature of the country: in the same manner as they are unjustly interfering with the general competition and business of publishing.

As the exposition of these practices must tend to the better understanding of the whole system of literary production, and its attendant circumstances of journalism, reviewing, advertising, and urging in every various way; we must again express our hope, that though we draw some of our illustrations from our own experience, it will not be thought that the subject is limited to any private consideration. At present we are on the topic of such means as may be employed in procuring the favourable

It is obvious enough, we presume, that none of these, however recommended to temporary circulation by puffing, low-price, or mutual combination in the same hands, or, if otherwise playing each other's game, can continue for any length of time to exercise a perceptible effect upon opinion. Without talent, and what is at least equal to talent, character, even their trifling influence speedily fails, while more reputable works continue to be largely the guides of those who have reposed confidence in them, and found that they have never been mistaken or led into error. We acknowledge that it is always extremely difficult, and often extremely painful, for a critic to pursue the undeviating line of strict and unswerving justice. He is tempted to favour his friends-he is tempted to be severe on those who have offended him or his prejudices; and he needs a mind strongly constituted and firmly made up, to screw his courage to the sticking place, when his bounden duty and a sense of truth compels him to censure and condemn the performances of those he most esteems - performances on which he is aware they highly pride and value themselves, and on which they may fondly build, perhaps, for applause in literature and success in life. Yet, unless a writer of this class can thus with apparent cruelty crush their aspirations, he had better throw down the pen of judgment, and confess himself ready to do that in print which nothing on earth could induce him to do vivâ voce, namely, utter a falsehood, or what is equi-valent, lend himself in partial instances to the suppressio veri.

In one point of view this situation is parti- mittee!

A very useful body of Christian divinity, and cularly onerous upon the editors of periodicals which appear in most rapid succession, and are most comprehensive in the nature of their contents. They are ever in immediate contact with artists, authors, and other aspirants for popular honour. Not so the editors of the larger reviews, which embrace but few subjects in the course of a whole year, and where the majority of the articles are confessedly the works of almost avowed contributors. But, on the other side, there is a circumstance of considerable relief to the first-mentioned littérateurs. They are not so uniformly called upon to be utterly pronounced in their decisions, and con-sequently to have to labour, with all their skill and ingenuity, to support them. In a great number of cases their task is far more usefully executed by their giving a neutral report, and simply enabling their readers, through descriptions and extracts, to frame their own estimate of the works brought under their observation. This we perceive the "Machine" writer imputes to the Literary Gazette as a grievous imperfection.

imperfection.

"The worst consequences (he says, in his own peculiarly impertinent manner,) of this craving for variety in each of these bloodhounds of "genius" is, that most of the critiques are done in a hasty, slovenly, inexact manner. The editors seem to think that on every saturday the 'literary lower empire' is drawing to an end; they have the barbarian at the gates. "What in heaver's name on you do with those heaps of new books? said a fraiend to a celebrated Northern critic. "Why, I judge of them all do of a ham,' was the reply; "I stick a bodkin through them and smell it!" The loke of the dining-room is repeated as a grave precept by the footmen in the kitchen. For the proper conduct of a work which shall treat of all branches of literature, science, and art, as these journals profess to do, a rather numerous association of competen branches of literature, science, and art, as these journal profess to do, a rather numerous association of competent individuals, and a nice division of labour, are indispensable. The man who can write on belles lettres may not be a profound historian—the historian may be neither a mathematician nor a philosopher—the best critic on the fine arts may be but an indifferent geographer—and even the author of a "first-rate" novel may be totally ignorant etaphysics.

Now it is no doubt true, as is often stated in notice of periodicals whose opinions have weight the introductory portions of our notices of with the public. for their due investigation: still, this very acknowledgment puts the reader on his guardif it be an important work, he is taught to look for a more matured criticism in future continuation; if it be light and easy (as ninety-nine cases out of a hundred are), he is satisfied that it may have received all the attention it required. And we, speaking for ourselves, must say, that if there were less of what is called reviewing, but what is in fact essay-writing, and more of mere judicious reporting, in every periodical devoted to these pursuits, we should deem it a very essential gain and benefit to the public. The essays are frequently admirable in themselves; but we have read three hundred pages of a deservedly esteemed review without learning a single iota concerning a single book whose name was posted at the top of its articles.

With respect to the very trite prattle about

the division of labour-that a fine novelist may not be a profound mathematician, &c .- it is certainly a most sagacious discovery; only all its pith lies in its application! If our Gazette, for example, manifested such absurd ignorance as to prove that its various departments were committed to the charge of incompetent parties, it must speedily be laughed to scorn, without the efforts of the Doers for the Diffusion. Till then, it may abide upon its reputation; its editor, with a strong sense of exultation and gratitude, repeating, that there is hardly an individual distinguished in English science and literature who has not contributed to such disgrace as its detractors would attempt to fix upon it—even the most eminent of their own boasted com-

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"Sometimes the unhappy purchasers of books, comparing them with the articles that recommended them to their notice, have been led to suspect that the golden opinions of a journal may be bought with more substantial gold. This is altogether a mistake. The critics have followed the march of the constitution. The courtly output of influence has succeeded to the rough hung of bitlery. Under Sir Robert Walpole, it is said, the cornyt members of the House of Commons made a direct bargain and sale of their votes for cash in hand; but titles and ribbons, the smiles of the court, and the bows of the minister, were gradually substituted for the guineas. Corruption still lived and devoured—it only changed its aliment. In the same manner, if we are to place any faith initerary history, the critics of former times occasionally sold a compliment and bought a cont. But now the diner and the rout—the upper place at 'good men's feasts,—the'greetings in the market-places' from those who register their names in the 'Court Guide'—and, above all, the nod of recognition from the coroneted carriage—such hungs are batts irresistible to certain appetites, and the gaitiude of a good-natured man knows no stint. The old 'solid pudding' was, however, we think, a better arrangement for the critic, and not a bit more degrading to the dignity of letters.'

And here, again, we differ toto cale from the

And here, again, we differ toto calo from the writer. He may prefer the old solid pudding, and so preferring, he may endeavour to repre-sent it as equally infamous to be thought deserving of an upper place at good men's feasts, of recognition from the exalted in the land, and in short of all that seems to us to be calculated to inspire a noble ambition, and to confirm a man in the paths of literary integrity and ho-nour. Though we understand the paltry allusion, we will not dwell upon the false principle it covers; but when it happens that public writers shall disregard the approbation which flows from a coronet, are ashamed of a marked place at the entertainments of good men, and do not covet the regard of the class whose names may be registered in the Court Guide—but, on the contrary, seek vulgar applause, and the voices of the prostituted and depraved—we shall fancy that the learning and genius of England is at its lowest ebb, and surrender our humble share to the Society for Diffusing their own sort of profitable wares.

On the Connexion of the Physical Sciences. By Mrs. Somerville. 8vo. pp. 458. London,

Mrs. Somervine. Ovo. pp. 1834. Murray.
Within the last few years the separate spheres of each of the branches of physical inquiry have been so widely expanded, that they are, if we may be allowed the expression, as it were, absorbed into each other. Like the several colours of the prismatic spectrum, it is difficult to point out the distinct line of demarcation between each, or to shew any part which is not common to its two immediate neighbours on each side. Thus geometry runs into astronomy, that again into geography;—this last is immediately connected with geology, which is itself inseparable from zoology; and we might proceed thus through the whole circle. It to illustrate this intimate connexion and has presented us with the masterly sketch now before us. Commencing with the great laws of motion, as deduced from the sublime and stupendous phenomena of astronomy, she tracks them through their wide domain, leaving no

We shall this week only advert to one other are governed. Her style is clear, and admirably were elected, and others proposed. Mr. Lamtopic. Speaking of methods by which the calculated to give a popular view of a highly bert exhibited a portrait of the Irish wolf-dog important and interesting subject. Without (a race now wholly extinct), taken from an entering so far into scientific detail as to emindividual in the possession of the late Marbarrass the unlearned reader, she nevertheless gives a distinct and ample view of each of the many subjects on which she touches. The pre-

The Judgment of the Flood. By John A. Heraud, author of the "Descent into Hell."
4to. pp. 347. London, 1834. Fraser.
An epic poem is not an every-day task either for author or critic; and we cannot yet venture to offer our judgment on the Judgment of the Flood, or on Mr. Heraud's judgment in the treatment of his subject. All that we can say, after the careful perusal of the first two books. about a seventh part of the whole, is, that we have found ourselves lost in a wood of words, with here and there a fair tree and a pretty shrub. We are kept indistinctly gasping after the immense and prodigious: perhaps the theme will become more palpable and defined as the author proceeds in his great undertaking. It seems in the beginning to master him; in the end it is possible he may master it.

The Library of Romance. Vol. X. The Baronet, a Novel. By Miss Julia Corner. London, 1834. Smith, Elder, and Co.

This is a falling-off from the standard promised by this series; so much so, that we will not offer even a remark on the common-place materials of which it is composed. Miss Julia Corner is a pleasant and clever person; but if the Library of Romance is to maintain a claim to popularity, there must be more prizes, and fewer blanks, in the series.

## ARTS AND SCIENCES.

ROYAL INSTITUTION.

MR. BRANDE on the manufacture of gas in the metropolis. (Report in our next.)—At the conversazione it was stated that Mr. Fuller had bestowed a sum sufficient to pay 1001. per annum to a professor of comparative anatomy and physiology in the Institution; and that Dr. Roget was about to be called to the professorship. In addition to this, the same munificent patron has given instructions for the investment of 3000% in the 3 per cent consols, to be placed, after a certain accumula-tion, at the disposal of the council of the Royal Institution.

## LINNÆAN SOCIETY.

INNÆAN SOCIETY.

MR. LAMBERT in the chair.—Read, a description of a new species of parakeet from Western Australia, belonging to Mr. Vigors's genus Nanodes, and named by the author of the paper, Mr. W. Tucker, Nanodes formosissimus. It comes very near to Nanodes undulatus, but differs in the greater brilliancy of its plumage, and by having a number of circular spots of an intense purple on the throat.—Read also, the description of a new species of Fungus, of the genus Geastern, discovered in the island of the genus Geastern, discovered in the island manifestation of their authority untouched.

The design is at once simple, as it is complete; for, whether we consider the planets wheeling in their orbits, or the molecular motion of che-

quess of Sligo.

## ZOOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

many subjects on which she touches. The present work will add much to the authoress's already high reputation; and we cordially recommend it to the perusal of all who wish to be agreeably initiated into a love of science.

MR. HAMILTON in the chair. — The balance carried to March the 1st, in favour of the Society, was 15291. 6s. Visitors to the gardens and museum during February, 4,825. Twelve new members were elected, and twenty pro-posed. The council had great satisfaction in reporting, that the state of the cash balance at the commencement of the present month had authorised it to direct the investment of 596l. 10s. 6d .- the amount withdrawn in Ja-1990. 10s. 6d.—the amount withdrawn in January for temporary purposes from the capital funded. The high state of the cash balance is chiefly owing to the receipt, during the months of January and February, of a larger proportion than usual of the more stable part of the income of the Society—that contributed by its fellows.

## GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY.

THE anniversary meeting of this Society was held at its apartments in Somerset House on Friday the 21st ultimo. The chair was taken by the president, G. B. Greenough, Esq. at one o'clock; and the secretaries proceeded to read the reports of the council and auditors on the state of the Society, and the accounts for the past year. Thanks were then voted to the repass year. I hanks were then voted to the re-tring vice-presidents, Dr. Fitton and the Rev. Prof. Sedgwick, and members of the council, F. Chantrey, Esq., Viscount Cole, Earl Fitz-william, Capt. Pringle, and Dr. Somerville. It was afterwards amounced by the president, that the proceeds of the Wollaston Donation Fund had been awarded by the council to Mons. Agassiz, in testimony of the high opinion entertained of his work on fossil fishes, and to encourage him in the prosecution of his important undertaking. Mr. Greenough then read that portion of his annual address which included the obituary; and the business of the morning terminated by the election of the following gentlemen to be the officers and council for the year ensuring. for the year ensuing:-

President, George Bellas Greenough, Esq. Vice-Presidents, W. J. Broderip, Esq., H. T. De la Beche, Esq., R. I. Murchison, Esq., H. Warburton, Esq. M.P. Secretaries, Professor Turner, M.D. and W. J. Hamil-

Secretaries, Professor Turner, M.D. and W. J. Hamilton, Esq.
Foreign Secretary, Charles Lyell, Esq.
Foreign Secretary, Charles Lyell, Esq.
Treasurer, John Taylor, Esq.
Council, G. W. Aylmer, Esq., Rev. Prof. Buckland,
D.D., Major S. Clerke, K.H., Rev. W. D. Conybeare.
C. G. B. Daubeny, M.D., Sir P. Egerton, Bart., W. H.
Fitton, M.D., Davies Gilbert, Esq., Woodbine Parish,
Jun. Esq., Capt. Alex. Robe, R.E., Rev. Prof. Sedgwick, Lieut-Col. Sykes, J. H. Vivian, Esq. M.P., and
Rev. James Yates.

In the evening the fellows and their friends dined at the Crown and Anchor; and the remainder of the president's address was delivered

from the chair at the Society's apartments.

Feb. 26th.— Mr. Greenough, president, in the chair. Fellows elected. A communication was first read from Mr. Leonard Horner on the quantity of earthy matter obtained by the author from the water of the Rhine, at Bonn, in the months of August and November. A the months of August and November. A notice was afterwards read on the plastic clay, near Reading, by Mr. J. Rofe, Jun. Mr. Lyell then gave an account of two parallel sections through the eastern portion of the Pyrenees, from Parmier, near Thoulouse, to Puycerda, and from Ceret to La Estala. The sheets of whether we consider the planets wheeling in their orbits, or the molecular motion of chemical affinity insensible as to its results, we perceive them every where the same. With the unusual skill, Mrs. Somerville has succeeded mologists, from India, and named by Mr. Westwards, including Southern Denie exhibiting the concatenation of phenomena, and the universality of the laws by which they where the same. With the description of three specimes, from Parmier, near Thoulouse, to Puycerda, and from Ceret to La Estala. The sheets of mologists, from India, and named by Mr. Westwards in exhibiting the concatenation of phenomena, and the universality of the laws by which they which they will be universality of the laws by will be universality of the laws by which they will be universality of the laws by which they will be universality of the laws by which they will be universality of the laws by which they will be universality of the laws by which they will be universality of the laws by which they will be universality of the laws by which they will be universality of the laws by which they will b

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that gentleman briefly explained the leading geological features of the country. Sir Philip Egerton also pointed out some of the particularities of a series of casts, the property of Viscount Cole, of the deinotherium and other quadrupeds, preserved in the museum at Darmstadt.

## MEDICAL SOCIETY OF LONDON.

FEB. 25. Mr. Kingdon in the chair. - The president announced that the council had decided that the Fothergillian gold medal was due to Mr. Clements of Shrewsbury, for his valuable essay on diseases of the urethra; and the two silver medals to Mr. Cole and Dr. Negri. To the former for his researches into the effects of tea and coffee,\* and to the latter for his two essays on the medicinal virtues of the secale cornutum. He begged also to announce, that it was the intention of the Society to continue giving these medals annually; and he trusted next year that considerable competition would take place for them. The gold medal, and one of the silver ones, were to be competed for by the members of the Society alone; the other silver medal was open to the whole medical world. [We cannot this week notice the remaining proceedings on a medical question.]

## WESTMINSTER MEDICAL SOCIETY.

FEB. 22. Mr. Pettigrew in the chair .- Mr. Costello was called upon to exhibit the effects of torsion upon the artery of a living dog. Previous to undertaking the operation, Mr. C. explained that M. Amussat's method of arresting homorrhage from the bleeding ends of a divided vessel, consisted in twisting the vessel upon itself, instead of tying it with a piece of silk, as commonly practised. The advantages of the new method were, that no foreign body was left in the wound, to cause irritation and suppuration, as in the case of the ligature; and also that it permitted union to take place by the first intention. The evil effects of a foreign body left in a wound were shewn in the case of Nelson, that great man having nearly fallen a sacrifice after the amoutation of his arm, not to the operation, but to a fis-tulous opening formed in the stump by the ligature.-A little black terrier was now placed upon the operating table, and Mr. Costello re-marked, that he would, in accordance with the urgent request of the Society, shew them the different steps of the operation. He never attempted an operation on the living animal without the greatest distress of mind. In the present instance, however, by perform-ing it in public, he should perhaps save fifty dogs from undergoing the pain in private.

Mr. Costello then laid bare the principal artery of the leg, and after dividing it, seized the open ends each with a pair of slide forceps, and by communicating several turns to the forceps instantly arrested the bleeding. The dog was then shewn to the members, and afterwards removed to an infirmary for sick animals, where it was understood he would be taken care of for ten days, and then killed; so that the success of the operation might be proved still further by an examination of the parts.

An animated discussion followed, in which

Mr. King and Mr. Greenwood denied, and Mr. Costello and Dr. Litchfield maintained the applicability of the operation to the human sub

### LITERARY AND LEARNED. ROYAL SOCIETY.

MR. BRUNEL in the chair .- A portion of a paper on the structure, functions, and vitality of polypi zoophytes, and other compound animals resembling them, was read.

ROYAL SOCIETY OF LITERATURE.

FEB. 19. Lord Bexley in the chair. - The readers of our reports of the Society's proceedings will remember, that at the meeting of January 15th, a paper by Mr. Beke was read, designed to prove that the writings attributed to Manetho are not authentic. jection chiefly dwelt upon, and which was suggested to the author's mind in connexion with his peculiar views on the geography of Scripture, was derived from a passage supposed to be from Manetho's history, relating to the expedition of Susakim, king of Egypt, against Jerusalem, in the reign of Rehoboam. It was afterwards stated by Mr. Cullimore, one of the members present on that occasion, as invalidating Mr. Beke's argument, that the passage in question was not really to be found in the writings of Manetho, but was unquestionably an interpolation by Syncellus, in the eighth century. This remark having been communicated to the latter gentleman, a second paper from him was read at this meetadmitting, in part, the correctness of Mr. C.'s statement, and explaining the circumstance in which the mistake had occurred; but, at the same time, containing evidence that Syncellus was not the author of the interpolation, but that it is to be referred to an age anterior to Eusebius, the passage being found in that writer. It was added by Mr. B., that whatever might be the issue of the inquiry into the character and authority of the disputed words, his opinion respecting Manetho would remain unaffected by the result; because, as he had before stated, his doubts arose, in the first instance, not from this passage, on which he had merely founded a collateral argument, but from the reference made by Josephus, as citing Manetho, to the bondage of the Israelites, in connexion with the monarchs of the Thebaïs,—a reference given in language so precise, as to exclude the possibility of error.

An essay by Mr. Cullimore followed, in which the authenticity of the writings of Manetho was maintained, in answer to Mr. Beke. He affirmed, that the Syncelline succession of the dynasties of Egypt is greatly corrupted; and that in the Greek chronicle, attributed by Scaliger to Eusebius, this record possesses no greater antiquity than in the remains of Syncellus. Mr. C. then adverted to Mr. Beke's arguments against the identity of the Mizraim of the Old Testament and the Egypt of the Greek and modern writers. The place in Egyptian history of Shishok, the most ancient of the Pharaohs mentioned by name in the Bible, is established on the evidence of the phonetic system of hieroglyphics. That sovereign appears in Manetho as \$2000\chi\_{15},—a name which perfectly expresses the Hebrew orthography; and the time of his reign precisely corresponds with the Scriptural record of the life of Shishok. In the Egyptian sculptures and papyri, he is discovered as Sheshouk or Shishauk. The name in the native characters

ject. They also cited numerous cases in which record here connects itself with the sacred t had been so employed by Dieffenbach and history independently of Manetho, who is Lieber, at Hamburgh and Berlin. against Judea. In the sculptures at Carnak, copied by Mr. Wilkinson, is a list of the conquests of Shishouk, in which the name Ioudah-Melek is found, which is literally the Ioudah-Melek is found, which is literally the title of Rehoboam, as expressed in the Hebrew of 1st Kings, xii. 23. Having, further, alleged the evidence of the conclusions to which he arrived, in his memoir on hieroglyphic geography, lately laid before the Society, (see proceedings at the meeting of January 1st), the writer concluded by submitteness. ting, that the agreement between Manetho's testimony and the correlative authorities is conclusive in favour of the integrity of the writings attributed to that chronographer, of the identity of Mizraim and the country commonly called Egypt, and of the utility of the modern researches into the monumental remains of that country.

#### SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.

MR. HALLAM in the chair .- Mr. Kempe exhibited some drawings by Mr. Swaine, jun., of ancient stained glass in the Jerusalem chamber at Westminster, which he accompanied by a descriptive paper. The glass has evidently been removed from some other place to its present situation. The style of the drawings is of the time of Henry III., when the building of the abbey church of Westminster was commenced; but the Jerusalem chamber was built by Abbot Litlington between the years 1349 and 1386. After describing the form and architecture of the chamber, Mr. Kempe observed, that Fabian states that King Henry IV., while preparing for a crusade, on the faith of a prophecy that he would die at Jerusalem, was suddenly taken ill, and was carried to the Jerusalem chamber and laid before a fire, and that he died in that room; thus indirectly verifying speare has taken his scene of the death of Henry IV. Mr. Kempe then expressed a doubt whether Henry IV. was in fact buried at Canterbury, as was supposed; and quoted Peck's Desiderata Curiosa, which gives a MS. preserved in Corpus Christi College, Cambridge, in which the writer declares that he heard one Clement Maidstone state that he was on board the vessel which was conveying the king's body to Canterbury, when they were overtaken by a violent storm, which so alarmed the sailors, that they broke open the coffin, and took out the body and threw it overboard, after which there was a calm; that they then closed up the coffin and put the pall over it, and the empty case was buried with pomp in Canterbury Cathedral: and Mr. Kempe observed, that the superstitious dread of a corpse which sailors at all times have felt, gave some countenance to the story. As a sequel to this paper, on the subject of the burial of Henry IV., the secretary observed, that in the month of August 1832 that king's tomb in Canterbury Cathedral was privately opened by consent of the dean, in the presence of a few individuals, in order to ascertain the truth or falsehood of the above story; and an account drawn up at the time, which he then read. From this it appears they first discovered a quantity of loose rubbish, in which they found a piece of leather, and a piece of cloth or stuff which they supposed There has been a grand row during the week about the tea-sales at the India House; whether there should be a greater or less quantity put up. If spring advances as his hauk. The name in the native characters they came to a rude chest of stout elm boards, with the present fine weather it promises, we should expect that any deficiency in quantity may be readily supplied, as usual, from the corporand hedge-rows.—Ed. L. G.

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colle impr and price mit Chin the : round a case of lead as rudely constructed as a rather startling question, respecting the truth round a case of read as runery constructed as the outer chest; and on cutting a small ap-perture in the lead, they saw the face of the corpse in a very perfect state: the skin was moist, and had the appearance of brown leather; the nose and its cartilage retained the proper form, but sunk on the admission of the air. The party having satisfied their curiosity, and settled the historical question, carefully closed up the coffins and the vault, and left the royal corpse to that repose in which it had already hin for above four centuries.

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#### ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY.

SATURDAY .- Mr. C. W. W. Wynn, president, in the chair. Several donations were laid on the table; among them were the following: -From Mr. James Prinsep, the third part of his Illustrations of Benares; from Mr. William Broadfoot, of the Bengal European Regiment, a collection of costumes and arms from Assam, including a two-handed sword brass mounted, several specimens of arrows, a quiver of basket-work, &c.; and from Mr. Thomas Newnham, a small cylinder of baked clay from Babylon, covered with cuneiform characters.

Mr. Bird, elected last meeting, being admitted a member, read a further portion of his introduction to the History of Guzerat, commencing with the ninth and tenth expeditions of Mah-mud of Ghizni. The first of these was directed against the fort of Kalunjer, the latter to the temple of Somnat'h, in Guzerat, of which many curious particulars are furnished; especially with reference to the system of worship, and the establishment kept up for the service of the idol. This, it is said, was broken in pieces by the king's own hand, and the fragments carried to Ghizni; but the story of the jewels found in the belly of the idol, is the invention of some narrator who loved fiction more than mercenary pursuits of life. The sketch then goes on to the death of Mahmud, and the state of the empire of Ghizni at that period; to which succeeds a consideration of the character of his successors, and a brief account of their several reigns; followed by a review of the state of India about A.D. 1043, and of the distribution of the country amongst its Hindu rulers. The writer next traces the decline of the Ghiznian dynasty, and the rise of that of Ghor; including, in his ac-count of the founder of the latter house, a narrative of the contests for supremacy between him and the celebrated Rajput sovereign, Prithirája; with which the reading terminated on the present occasion.

## MR. BURGES' LECTURES.

Mr. Burges, in his seventh lecture, and in pursuance of his previous advertisement, entered into the detail of the plan he had proposed to Lord Althorp, by which he under-took not only to increase the revenue by upwards of one million sterling, but so to im-prove the fertility of the soil, as to enable this country to feed double its present population on better bread, and at a cheaper rate, than can be grown upon or imported from any other part of the world. The plan, which Mr. B. supported by the authority of past and present agriculturists, is bottomed upon the carefully collecting all the most valuable manure, now so improvidently wasted, especially in large towns, and in circulating it through the country, at a price within the reach of the farmer; and the initiating the providence of the Religious and imitating the practice of the Belgians and Chinese, who alone are alive to the truth of the adage, that you must give to the soil in the shape of manure, what you take from it in 427, the shape of produce. Mr. B. also entered upon King.

of the Newtonian theory of gravitation, and which he denied had been satisfactorily proved. But the most novel ideas propounded by him had reference to the knowledge possessed by the ancients of the mariner's compass, air-balloons, and locomotive vessels; for Mr. B. asserted, with Salverte, that the arrow by which Abaris the Scythian was enabled to find his way through unknown countries, was the magnetic needle; and while the self-moving ships mentioned in the Odyssey were probably vessels furnished with windmills that put in motion oars placed at the ship's side, the air-balloon of the moderns was identified with the invention of Dædalus; and this the more easily, because he is said to have bade his son Icarus not to fly either too high or too low, for fear of dissolving the wax by which the artificial wings were united to his body. But, said Mr. B., the wax was probably mentioned by the first narrator of the story, who did not know the process still in use of joining pipes, made in the case of Dædalus to imitate the joints of wings, by means of luting, or a com-

loses equally its tenacity.

In his eighth and last lecture, Mr. Burges made some further objections to the Newtonian theory, into which, however, we cannot enter; and in treating of metaphysics and moral philosophy, insisted (as in most other respects) on productions. the great superiority of the ancients over the moderns. In conclusion, he expressed his fears that the study of those divine authors of antisublimest efforts of the human mind, is becoming more and more neglected, and that they will ere long be entirely forgotten in the acquirement of superficial knowledge, and the

## FINE ARTS.

## BRITISH INSTITUTION. [Fifth notice.]

No. 541. The Interior of the British Gallery. Miss Alabaster. - Just as much of the interior as serves the purposes of composition, and shews that the talents of the fair artist are fully competent to the task either of imitating the original pictures placed in the collection, or of painting the living subjects she has so judiciously introduced. Miss Alabaster is an honour to the English school.

No. 489. Country Inn, with Figures. W. Shayer.—Artists in search of the picturesque can hardly miss their aim, when a country inn or little public-house presents itself. The subject embraces associations more general and more extensive than almost any other, and, if we may believe the poet, more comfort; when he says-

"Whoe'er has travelled life's dull round, Where'er his stages may have been, Must sigh to think he still has found The warmest welcome at an inn."

Mr. Shayer has imparted to his performance the charms of his fluent and able pencil.

No. 524. Lane Scene. T. Creswick. — A more brilliantly executed performance, or a more faithful delineation of rustic scenery, we have scarcely ever seen. Indeed, the landscape department throughout the Gallery abounds in a rich variety of talent, some certainly too high for inspection, yet affording indications of power. Among the latter are, No. 426, North Walsham, Norfolk, H. Ladbrooke; and No. Walsham, Norfolk, H. Ladbrooke; and No. 427, Landscape, Evening; Composition, C. King.

\* On another occasion, when asked the same question, he replied in his lively manner, "Why, I am rising 93, if a man, like a horse, can be said to be rising, when he is descending to the grave."—Ed. L. G.

No. 451. Scene on the Floating Harbour, Bristol. T. B. Pyne. — From the known and admired talents of this artist, we also regret that the situation of this picture hardly allows us to do justice to its merits. Still, its mellow tone and aërial perspective cannot fail of being properly appreciated.

No. 464. The Tinker's Cart, C. Steedman; No. 475, Chapelle de la Vierge, Caen, H. Wilson; No. 486, View on the Thames, near Whiteson; No. 486, Yeev on the Thames, near White-hall, C. Dean; No. 410, Afternoon, No. 411, Morning, G. Barrett; No. 394, Lake of Bol-sona, near Orvicto, W. Cowen; will, with others of their class, be found well worthy of attention. Among the subjects, No. 417, A Study, John Hayter; No. 470, A Study, Mrs. James Robertson; No. 509, Girl and Bird, A. Morton, and No. 492, Corregin; the Matter of Morton; and No. 492, Cornelia, the Mother of the Gracchi, J. Bridges, are entitled to notice. The last-mentioned is a classical composition, painted with great vigour and with good effect. painted with great vigour and with good effect.
No. 501, The Frison Girl, W. E. West, is full
of character and expression. No. 510, Fish,
F. R. Lee. The freshness and brilliancy of
these studies render them no less remarkable than this artist's other admirable works. J. A. O'Connor, A. G. Vickers, G. Hilditch, A. Clint, J. Tennant, J. Denman, A. Priest, &c., will be found to have evinced talent at least equal to that which has so frequently called forth our praise in these able artists' former

No. 398. Iris, at the command of Juno, descends to the Cave of Sleep. John Taylor.— The situation of this picture will not allow such quity, in whose works alone can be found the an inspection as to enable us to speak of its particular merits; but we cannot pass it by, without taking off our hat to the veteran, and without taking off our hat to the veteran, and universally respected artist, whose work it is. Mr. Taylor is the father—we ought rather to say the grandfather—of the existing race of English painters. He was a pupil of Hayman, to whom this country is indebted for the introduction into it of historical painting. Although at so advanced a period of life, he possesses all his faculties, and is full of cheerfulness and pleasantry. Being asked the other day his age, his answer was, "I am not quite ninety-five; but I am what on the Stock Exchange they but I am what on the Stock Exchange they would call ninety-four and seven-eighths." On the day of the private view, Mr. Taylor walked from his house in Cirencester Place to the British Gallery; and while there, ob-served to a friend, "Well, I don't think I shall trouble exhibitions any more with my pictures; but what is to become of the num-bers who are following the profession?"

[Conclusion in our next.]

## THE NATIONAL GALLERY.

SINCE we find that not only what is done, but what is doing, cannot be undone, we will not fatigue our readers or the public with many critical remarks upon architectural ob-jections to the new National Gallery now rapidly erecting near the site of the King's Mews. As in many other cases, we, and with us the almost unanimous taste and judgment of the country, are forced to acquiesce in what cannot be helped; even though it should inflict another lasting blot upon the architecture of the metropolis and the style of our national buildings. As we have reason to believe, however, that our exertions in this cause have produced some good effect; and that the ar-chitect has been led or driven to amend his

plan to a certain extent, we trust it will afford a pretty general gratification to be enabled to mark the difference between what was originally proposed and what is at present executing — though we cannot be sure that further variations and alterations may not be made before the Gallery reach its cornice.

When Mr. Wilkins first thought it expe dient to sound the trumpet of his own fame, and display his eminent literary talents in writing epistles to the newspapers in praise of his own works and depreciation of all other edifices, ancient and modern, we humbly ventured to question his assumed superiority; and, having obtained a drawing from his model for the National Gallery, as exhibited at the office of Woods and Forests, we gave the annexed engraving of it in the Literary Gazette, accompanied by such remarks as appeared to us to be justly applicable to its inherent defects, to its inconsistency with, and to its encroachment on other long-esteemed buildings. The wings being covered, for a reason we cannot divine, at the period the model was partially shewn, Mr. Wilkins took occasion to find furious fault with our imperfect representation of his design; and to defend it from all the objections we had suggested to its being considered Perfection. Now, however, that the model as it is really to be, is fairly before us in the Adelaide Street Gallery of Practical Science, we rejoice to see, not only that we were not materially wrong in our first print (though Mr. W. boldly declared it to be " a libellous representation"), but that the architect has had the good sense to adopt some of the hints for improvement, which, in truth, with no other view but that of contributing to the actual embellishment, instead of deformity, of the capital, and the ad-

• We should be obliged by our readers' comparing the two, and trying to find out the libel. For our own parts, we are almost ready to fancy that, though not to the business bred, we are the better architect of the two.— Ed. L. G.

vantage of our native school of Fine Arts, we took the liberty to throw out.

Below the repetition of our first elevation will be found a correct drawing of the front of the second and amended model as it at present appears.

Having candidly stated the motives which guided us throughout the progress of this affair, it will readily be believed that we can entertain no hostility towards the architect, nor any desire to renew a controversy which he contrived to divest of public interest by making it personal. We shall be happy to see a structure finished which will do honour to Mr. Wilkins's talents, and prove an ornament to London; and in the meantime, whatever may be our misgivings, will simply notice some of the principal altera-

In Mr. Day's excellent exhibition of architectural models, the Gallery is seen in relation to St. Martin's Church, and the two sides of Trafalgar Square. From this we observe, that according to the new line of frontage, the whole of the Portico of St. Martin's Church will be visible from the Opera Colonnade, though on advancing up Pall Mall East it will be almost obscured by the portico of the National Gallery.

On one point we think Mr. W. is much to be commended; and we wish he had been more We held that his elevation was too low, cially with reference to the surrounding buildings; and though he stoutly denied our position, we are glad to see that he has added several (we believe exactly seven) feet to its height, so that his cornice ranges with the cornice of the adjacent church. It is true that our original cut is still higher-which at any rate proves the fallacy of one of Mr. W.'s assertions, that we had represented his model of lower proportions than it really was.

The centre dome has also been (as we think) advantageously raised; and door-ways substituted for the arch-ways, against which we so

strenuously raised our voice as grossly incongrous in the Greek style.

We request it to be observed, that the parts of the two ends of the Gallery which we have caused to be shaded in the cut, are now thrown back in the building; which contributes somewhat to the opening of the portico of St. Martin's to the view. What they were at first we cannot tell, as, when our first drawing was taken, they were, as we have noticed, concealed with paper. Our smaller domes were also misplaced, at least differ from their present disposition; but as they were movable, they had probably been shifted on the model by some ingenious amateur. We now take leave of the matter, ber. ging room for only a few additional notes touch ing Mr. Wilkins's promises and theories, and Mr. Wilkins's actual practice.

March 4, 1833, Mr. Wilkins tells the editor of the Morning Herald, that an accurate model is in preparation, to which he will invite the attention of gentlemen connected with the press, in three weeks.—(Twelve months)

to which he will invite the attention or general conceted with the press, in three weeks.—(Twelve months have elapsed!)

In his Essay on Porticos, he says of St. Martin's, that, as a principal defect, "It is not the entire width of the building; it affects to be the end of the building, but is not: every porticos, whether at the end or in the centre of a range of building, should be, or appear to be, the ornamental termination of two finals walls. . . . . . On porticose, generally speaking, appear to be mere applicate stuck against a range of wall."

How does this dogma agree with the centre of the National Gallery, as he is absolutely constructing it? The close of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of briefs of the centre in two divisions on either side of the centre in the centre of the National St. In the first woodcut we had given him the extension in one division only; in this we had unknowingly followed the front of St. Martin's Church, which may perhaps, be the reason why he does not adopt it: never hards.

haps, be the reason why he does not adopt it: nevertheless it is infinitely preferable to his own blank-looking design in this respect.

If our porticos in general are mere appliquees, what has

If our porticos in general are mere appliquée, what has he to say to the four columns stuck against the vallat his two side-entrances? And let us ask, if the intercolumniation of the grand portico be correct, what is be said of these two little detached affairs?—they are more straggling than the much-abused St. Martin's. No good Grecian authority is to be found for a dome on a two-storied building. Our first cut gave the appearance of a principal story on a low basement—his is divided in two by equal stories.



NEW PUBLICATIONS.

As it appeared in the L. G. No. 340.

Illustrations of the Pilgrims of the Rhine. Saunders and Otley.

ally exclaiming, in humble imitation of Cassio's David Roberts; but there are also a few beau-

turned them over, we could not help continu- tributed the designs for this rich treat is Mr. A collection of twenty-six as elegant, charming, and highly finished little works of Heaven, why this is a more exquisite print than art as ever came under our notice. As we the other!" The artist who has chiefly con
McClise, Parris, and Holst. The engravers are the other!" The artist who has chiefly con
Messrs. Bacon, Carter, Deeble, Floyd, Goodal, more, and bauld, Me from a dr de Ville. from a dra stein," en ing by 1 by D. M' by E. Goo Roland drawing graved by D. Rober graved 1 Moonligh ings by graved b Roberts: E Gooda among t there is not dwel distingui Burlowe the pape

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Hatfield, Karnot, Le Keux, Mitchell, Redawsy, E. J. Roberts, Staines, Wallis, Willmore, and Winkles. "The Church of St. Remmore, and WHERES. The CHURCH OF ST. Rem-balld, Mechlin," engraved by J. H. Le Keux, from a drawing by D. Roberts; "The Hôtel de Ville, Louvain," engraved by W. Wallis, from a drawing by D. Roberts; "Ehrenbreitfrom a drawing by J. H. Karnot, from a drawing by D. Roberts; "The Faun and the Fairies," engraved by Bacon, from a drawing Fairies," engraved by Bacon, from a drawing by D. M'Clise; "Nieder Lahnstein," engraved by E. Goodall, from a drawing by E. Goodall; "Rolandseck," engraved by Willmore, from a drawing by D. Roberts; "Rheinfels," engraved by W. Radclyffe, from a drawing by D. Roberts; "The Visit at Moonlight," engraved by Mitchell, and "The Dance by Moonlight," engraved by Bacon, from drawings by T. E. Parris; "Thurmberg," engraved by Willmore, from a drawing by D. graved by Willmore, from a drawing by D.
Roberts; and "Drachenfels," engraved by
E. Goodall, from a drawing by D. Roberts,—are among the most brilliant of these gems; but there is not one on which the eye of taste will not dwell with delight. The portrait of the distinguished author, from the fine bust by Burlowe, has not been happily transferred to the paper.

Retzsch's Outlines to Shakspeare. Second Series. Macbeth. Leipsic, E. Fleischer; London, Bach and Co.

A MAGNIFICENT impersonation of the most magnificent of our great dramatist's works. Every lover of the arts must rejoice that this highly-gifted German has listened to the earnest entreaty of the Foreign Quarterly Review: -" If our feeble voice could reach Herr Retzsch, in his studio in Germany, we would ardently conjure him, in the name of the people of England, to proceed with his glorious illustrations of Shakspeare." His present production is, in our opinion, much superior to his illustrations of Hamlet: the subject seems to have been better suited to his genius. His conception of the Witches, especially, is admirable; and some of the finest of the thirteen plates of which the series consists are those in which these supernatural beings are introduced. Particularly in the scene on the blasted heath, when they meet Macbeth and Banquo, nothing can exceed the character of terrific energy and grandeur with which he has invested them. Another favourite plate of ours (in which, however, Retzsch has taken the liberty to present to the eye what Shakspeare reserved for the ear,) is the murder of Duncan: the dreadful intensity of purpose manifested by Macbeth is appalling. The apparition of Ban-Macbeth is appalling. The apparition of Banquo at the banquet is also managed with extraordinary skill; never was the text of a poet more finely embodied by a painter than the

"Thou hast no speculation in those eyes Which thou dost glare with!"

Lady Macbeth is less satisfactory to us than any of the other dramatis persona; but the fact perhaps is, our recollection of the inimitable Siddons is so vivid, that we cannot tolerate, either on the stage or on the canvass, any Lady Macbeth who does not bear some resemblance to that wonderful woman. Yet, even with this strong prejudice operating upon us, we are not insensible of the merits of

Retzsch's sleep-walking scene.

Amidst all this excellence, our astonishment was unbounded at noticing the introduction

into one of the plates of an incident connected offspring of study, but the result of unpre-with a sprite or goblin (we cannot be more meditated promptitude. Mr. Ventouillac was specific) which would disgrace the most vulborn at Calais, in March 1798, arrived in this gar work of the Dutch school. Surely, some envious rival of Retzsch's must have stolen into his studio in his absence, and interpolated, with malignant exultation, the gross and unmentionable outrage on decency to which we

The Birds of Europe. By J. Gould, F.L.S. Parts I. II. and III.

A Monograph of the Family of Ramphastidæ. By the same. Part I.

OF the numerous publications illustrative of natural history which have come under our observation since the commencement of our critical labours, we have never met with any so magnificent and splendid as those the titles of which stand at the head of the present notice. They are inestimable, in every point of view, both as works of science and as works of art; but it is with reference to the latter character that we here speak of them.\* To the ornithologist they must yield the highest gratification; but there is no one who has an eye for the beauties of Nature, and for those of a happy imitation of her, who will not be charmed with the exquisite and unrivalled fidelity, spirit, and taste, with which Mr. Gould has executed the various subjects on which he has employed his pencil. We were about to men-tion some of the specimens which struck us on the first view as the most curious, interesting, and admirable; but, really, on again turning over the leaves of the different numbers, we feel that we should be only doing injustice to those which we abstained from particular-We shall content ourselves, therefore, with observing, that they must be seen to be justly appreciated; and that we are convinced they will fully realise any expectations respect-ing them which our remarks may have excited.

## BIOGRAPHY.

MR. L. T. VENTOUILLAC.

On the morning of Sunday last, died, of pulmonary consumption, at his house in Bedford Street, Mr. L. T. Ventouillac, late professor of the French language and literature in King's College. His death may be considered as occasioning a vacancy that it will not be easy to supply; since his extraordinary command of the English language, and his critical acquaintance with our classical writers, enabled him to communicate in English the delicacies of his own tongue with peculiar facility and grace. With Shakespeare, who was, indeed, the "god of his idolatry," he became early and intimately conversant; so much so, that he himself attributed, in a great measure, his rapid progress in the study of English to the delight which he experienced in the works of our immortal bard. Nor was this altogether a blind admiration; for his quick ear and lively fancy enabled him to detect, with all the readiness of a native, the puns, clinches, quiddits, and conceits, which occasionally figure even in Shakespeare's hap-

piest passages.

Mr. Ventouillac wrote a neat, idiomatic English style. He spoke our language with vernacular fluency; and could address, extempore, even a polished assembly, in a manner very pleasing to his hearers. His behaviour and conversation were amiable and unaffected; though the latter had frequently an epigrammatic smartness, that was, however, not the

country in 1816, and was appointed professor at King's College in 1830. He has been cut off, therefore, at the early age of thirty-six.

Though Mr. Ventouillac's literary labours

were confined chiefly to elementary works, vet his masterly translation into French of Bishop Watson's Apology, with several of his English prefaces and introductions, indicate abilities of a superior order. Soon after his arrival in England, he embraced the Protestant faith; and he died, with exemplary fortitude and complacency, in the communion of the English church.

The Rev. Edward Cannon died at Ryde, in the Isle of Wight, on the 3d inst., aged 62. He was the Mr. Moss, the caller for ginnims, &c., in Hook's delightful novel of Maxwell; and was, like Yorick, a man of infinite jest-like Falstaff, the cause of wit in others and, like himself, eccentric and full of humour in the extreme—for "none but himself could be his parallel." He lived on terms of intimacy with many individuals distinguished for rank and talent; to whom his own drolleries were a fund of great entertainment. He said a multitude of clever things, which have enlivened our periodicals for years; and a hundred anecdotes of him might be related which would divert the public as much as they have diverted private circles.

## SKETCHES OF SOCIETY.

CORNISH MINES.

AMONGST the various mines of Cornwall, one of the most interesting, as well as the most wildly situated, is the Levant Copper and Tin mine, in the parish of St. Just, near the Land's End. Its principal operations are carried on upon the summit of the cliffs, and on and under the rocks, which brave the fury of the Western ocean. At the base of the precipice, at the termination of a narrow and deep chasm in the rocks, and almost on a level with high-watermark, is seen the entrance of the adit, or the outlet by which the water is discharged from the mine into the sea; a little higher up appears the mouth of the shaft, by which the work-men descend by ladders into the mine; and on the summit of the cliff is the principal shaft, and a small steam-engine, by which the mine is drained, and the ore drawn up to the surface. From this shaft, which is nearly 350 yards in depth, are carried several horizontal galleries, called levels, at different depths, both eastward and westward. The highest level is twenty-eight, and the deepest 300 yards below the adit; and as the shaft is very near the shore, most of the western levels are immediately under the sea; some of them have been excavated nearly 200 yards horizontally in that direction. As deep as the sixty-six yards level, not only the roaring of the sea in stormy weather, but the ordinary breaking of the waves on the rocks, and the rolling of the pebbles on the beach, are distinctly heard by the miners, but without the slightest apprehension of danger. At the 108 yards level, the miners hear ger. At the 108 yards level, the miners hear the sea dashing against the rocks during storms, but not at other times; in the deeper levels it is not heard at all. The water drawn from the mine is quite brackish; but so very close is the texture of the rock, that, although the mine is so deep, and the rock is penetrated in so many parts directly under the ocean, the

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s Mr. beauesars.

<sup>•</sup> Their vague and indistinct appearance in the scene of the murder of Duncan is peculiarly imaginative and original.—Ed. L. G. \* We shall probably hereafter speak of the other invaluable branch of the subject.

<sup>\*</sup> Which we have frequently noticed with high com-

quantity of water is surprisingly small. In the month of October last it did not exceed sixteen gallons per minute; which is as nothing, when compared with the quantity drawn from some of the large mines in the central mining district of Cornwall, from one of which was discharged in the same month upwards of 1800

gallons per minute.

The whole scene is uncommonly picturesque. The sides of the chasm are covered with dark grey and yellow lichens. The gleams of the early sun falling around produce a beautiful effect—the wild arena of industry, and the piles of rich ore on the summit, all vivid with light, while the shadow is on the stern precipice, and on the sea beneath. The narrow path from the summit to the opening into the mine winds down the face of the cliff, and at every turn there are sheds erected, where the workmen are accustomed to change their dresses before they descend, and when they again emerge from the mine. A stranger, who from the summit of the cliff, during the storm, should view the miners winding down a path so narrow that the smallest deviation would be fatal, and then descending a shaft on whose very verge the sea broke furiously, would naturally be filled with alarm and apprehension for their safety; but the most interesting, as well as picturesque sight, perhaps, is that of the miners issuing from the shaft, in their mining dresses, (coloured by a solution of the red oxide of iron, of which some of the veins contain a large quantity,) with the dim lights in their hands, their faces streaked with mud, and almost as red as their clothes.

The principal produce of Levant is copper ore, of that kind called the grey sulphuret of copper; a large portion of which contains from twenty to thirty per cent of pure copper. Al-though a very small mine, it has been a very profitable one. The largest profit gained at any period was in August and September last, amounted, in those two months, to three thousand pounds. The number of persons employed is about 300; viz. 200 men in the inte-

rior of the mine, and 100 persons on the surface.

The last visit paid to this wild scene was on a dreary evening at the close of autumn; the rain fell heavily, a storm was gathering on the waters, and the dark clouds swept hurriedly along. The murmur of the waves on the solitary beach is beautiful, but not here,—for it is mingled with the confused sound of voices, the clang of hammers far below, and the hissing sound of the steam issuing from the engine on the edge of the precipice,—to look down which, was an animating yet fearful sight. It was the stern conflict of man with nature, even in her rudest holds-the victory was his! On the right is a little building called the countinghouse, where the affairs of the mine are transacted, and the adventurers meet to dine and share their profits. It is seldom that man can blend in the same hour the full enjoyment of the picturesque, a sumptuous repast, and a rich cheque on the banker at the close. The wild expanse of the north sea, its heavy sound on the dark cliffs, the clash of circling glasses within, and the excited voices dwelling on golden hopes and glorious speculations, make strange and beautiful harmony to the adven-turer'sear. The rain continued to fall piteously; the sheds in the downward path offered a welcome shelter. The roofs of these sheds are weicome sneiter. The tools to wind should to woodlist; and Correlli's trio, by Messrs. Lindley, fastened with chains, lest the wind should woodlist; and Correlli's trio, by Messrs. Lindley, Hatton, and Dragonetti; which last was called \*We are indebted for this interesting sketch to the pen of our esteemed friend, Mr. Carne, the author of Letters mass spectacles, and the same Listorical comedy feebly burning in each hand, the only light that from the East, and other very popular works.—Ed. L. G. [from the French, repeated at Covent Garden

step of these daring and successful men offered a striking contrast to the fearfulness of the tempest, with which many a bark was struggling. They were like the phantoms of the lost mariners in the Eastern tale, which sternly issue from the deep to wander round the Golden Isle, for the thirst of whose soil they had

Progress of Adulteration: Tea, Brandy, &c. The adulteration of teas described in our last No. but one, is infinitely more widely practised than the public are aware; and the difficulty of than the public are aware; and the difficulty of his overture is a good thing; and we repeat applying any test, except that of examining that we should like to be better acquainted the forms of the leaves, as stated by Professor Burnett, is a protection to the almost universality of the intermixture of spurious materials, gathered from every hedge, with the herb imported from China. Let any consumers of even the higher-priced teas, after breakfast or tea, take the trouble of throwing the contents of the tea-pot into a basin of hot water; and in nine cases out of ten they will find a considerable proportion of the undisguised foliage of the sloe, bramble, and other native shrubs and trees. In the cheaper teas there is scarcely any thing else. In the latter, however, the taste is sufficient to detect the imposition; and there is a bitterness and astringency left on the palate for hours. In brandy, too, the road to fraud being once made patent (we mean open), by the exposure of the ways by which it can be so readily effected, the evil has spread with astonishing rapidity. In the face of a notoriously increased consumption, which the dread of Cholera introduced, there has been a large falling-off in the revenue, only to be accounted for by the general substitution of other compositions for the genuine spirit. The trials and police cases respecting contraband teas and brandies have done much towards this rascally and injurious consummation. The previous excessive adulteration of wines hardly admitted of an increase; but, upon the whole, we may now console ourselves with the reflection, that it is nearly, if not quite, impossible to go beyond our present condition in drinking home produce, from every hedge-row and coppice, in lieu of foreign teas, wines, and brandies! The march of swindling has made wonderful progress since the age of Humphrey Clinker; until, now, we may literally exclaim with the poet, that

Nothing is, but is not,

## MUSIC.

SOCIETA ARMONICA.

THOUGH the concerts are now coming on thick and threefold, we cannot allow the first of the Societa Armonica, on Thursday, 27th ult. to pass without note or comment, beyond the brief allusion to it in last Saturday's Gazette. Not only was the instrumental selection, as usual, of the first order, but the vocal part also (which, by the way, constituted about two-thirds of the performance) consisted chiefly of classi-cal productions. It is good thus to keep pace with the improving taste of the public. were much disappointed at the omission of Spofforth's glee, "The spring, the pleasant Spofforth's glee, "The spring, the pleasant spring," especially as Mrs. Knyvett was to have sung the upper part. Among the judicious encores of the evening, were "From mighty kings," by the above accomplished vocalist; and Correlli's trio, by Messrs. Lindley,

was now abroad. The pallid faces and weary for with all the animation that its exquisite performance deserved. A new overture by Ries, composed for the festival at Cologne, was performed for the first time in this country :- We hope not for the last, for it abounds with charming musical ideas, though some of the effects were a little injured by the too great predominance of the louder wind-instruments.

M. Ries, after the true German fashion, M. Ries, after the true German annual employs all the means and appliances of noise afforded him by the orchestra, not excepting even the cymbal or triangle, both of which came in for their share of attention. Nevertheless.

## PHILHARMONIC SOCIETY.

THE Philharmonic first concert took place on Monday, and we hear a favourable account of the performances. The chief novelty and at-traction was "The seventh day," by Bishop, a cantata from Paradise Lost, which is described as possessing much merit. Signor Masoni gave a composition of Kreutzer's on the violin, and displayed his powers over that instrument with considerable effect

Young REGONDI has had two other full concerts.

## DRAMA.

KING'S THEATRE.

AFTER many delays, and having many obstacles to surmount, M. Laporte at length opened the campaign for the season on Saturday with La Gazza Ladra. Madame Feron and Curioni, who re-appeared after several years' absence, played the principal characters; and, with allowances for the former, who undertook the part of Ninetta at only two days' notice, and fair consideration for other difficulties, the whole was favourably received. She has some sweet notes and considerable power, though her voice is not altogether pleasing. Mrs. Anderson made as little as she well could of Pippo; and, perhaps, she might get through her rôle better if she would endeavour to recollect the words and the music. Zuchelli, as Fernando, was very good; and Giubilei is much improved. The gem of the evening was, of course, Taglioni, in La Sylphide, as graceful and fairylike as ever. She was welcomed with warm applause. We advise her, however, to look to her laurels, as she is likely to have an ambitions rival in Duvernay. The choruses and or-chestra are very effective; but we think that they ought both to suffer the penalties of high treason for murdering "God save the king,"

they always do at the King's Theatre.

Madame Ungher and M. Ivanoff are, we understand, to appear shortly; and M. Taglioni has a new ballet, La Féerie (as it is called) in rehearsal. Although the opening of the theatre, except as to its fulness, looked ominous, we trust that M. Laporte's disappointments will not throw a damp on his exertions. We expect great things from him; for no one is a better caterer for the public than he, and no one more deserving of encouragement. Indeed, we see that two new singers are announced for this very evening-a good sign of managerial

exertion.

THE theatres during the past week present us with nothing of novelty. Every thing produced now is possessed of such extraordinary merits, that the public never tires of seeing the same grand ballet, the same Christand Drury a most de Beggar of minor the night. Tl some exce Sadler's V with a pi and the F

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and Drury Lane. The Victoria is pursuing ascend the tree. It was no time for a hare amost deservedly successful career with The Beggar of Bethnal Green; and the popular minor theatres continue to be crowded every night. The Surrey is always full, and exhibits some excellent acting and able productions. Sadler's Wells too is, we hear, very prosperous with a piece called *The Clerk of Clerkenwell*; and the Fitzrov rising fast.

## VARIETIES.

Covent Garden Theatrical Fund. - The anniversary dinner of this excellent institution is being eaten in Freemasons' Hall at the time we are going to press, so that we have it not water going to press, so that we have to have in our power to give it more than our good wishes. "Some to work, and some to play; thus runs the world away." The announced list of patrons, however, is eminently distinguished, and will no doubt contribute to a desirable result.

Sir Jonah Barrington. — The Irish papers now say, that it is Sir John, not Sir Jonah Barrington, who has "bid the world good sight;" which name we have no death of the world good sight; night;" which news, we have no doubt, Sir Jonah is very well pleased to hear, as we should be to hear of another volume of his veritable reminiscences.

Ashmolean Society. - At the meeting last week, at Oxford, the president in the chair, after the election of members, two papers were resd, communicated by J. Duncan, Esq. D.C.L.; the first on a supposed letter of Alexander the Great to Aristotle, descriptive of India; the second, a description of a singular instance of a moth case formed in a carpet bag. Dr. Daubeny exhibited Daniell's pyrometer, and made some observations on the influence of light on animal life; and concluded by proposing the following query: - "Is it reasonable to suppose (with Dr. Edwards), that the singular animal called the Proteus anguinus, which occurs in the dark caverns of Carniola. is a reptile whose form has never been developed, hearing the same relation to some unknown species which the tadpole does to the frog?"

The Crow and Duck.—Among our recent varieties, we noticed an instance of animal sagacity, as recorded in a provincial journal signative, as recorded in a provincial journal (and these journals do certes collect a wonderful set of stories of this kind), in which the duck had the worst of it. Not so, as appears from the Norfolk Chronicle, was it ultimately at Mr. Lane's dam, at Hingham, where "Mrs. Duck" built a nest, and began to lay eggs, which being observed by a crow, fond of a new-laid egg every day, he helped himself accordingly. "Mrs. Duck," disapproving of this appropriation, and resolving to have a crow to pluck, lay in wait for the depredator, and having caught him. flagrante delicto. and having caught him, flagrante delicto, ducked him in the dam till he was drowned!

Cutting Teeth. - A person was mentioning the other day the remarkable fact of a gentle man aged seventy-nine having cut two new teeth—" Poh!" mumbled an old lady, who had not one left; "I cut all mine more than three years ago !

The Hare without any Friends .- When the French papers do set out in wonders of natural history, they beat the English out of sight. A hare was recently surrounded by inundation, and had no means of safety but climbing up a willow-tree, and perching, like a bird, on the topmost bough. A countryman discovered it, took a boat, and rowed on an expedition against the life of poor puss. He reached the asylum, pushed his vessel to the shore, and began to

to hesitate-with infinite promptitude, as if about to be seized for high trees-on, our furry friend took one leap into the boat, and, loosing it from the bank, sailed to the neighbour-ing coast, where it disembarked and escaped. Meanwhile the invader was compelled to wear the willow, and seek his own preservation by occupying the hare's abandoned seat, till at last he was rescued by his friends!!!—Journal de l'Aube.

African Barbarities .- Messrs. Lent and Carcenac, merchants of Marseilles, were recently wrecked on the coast of Africa, between Bona and Boujeia. They were immediately assailed by a tribe of Bedouin Arabs, the wretched crew made prisoners and subjected to every cruelty, while the more wretched merchants were horribly put to death; M. Carcenac being crucified and his heart torn out, and M. Lent's head slowly sawed off - both amid the shouts and execrations of these human fiends!

Mammoths .- The skeletons of three mammoths are stated to have been found in a cavern in the island of Podrese, and brought to Cronstadt: one of which the Emperor Nicholas has signified his intention of sending to the Jardin des Plantes at Paris.

Earthquake at Genoa. - A severe shock was felt on the 12th of February, in the afternoon, which lasted about nine seconds; another and a slighter shock occurred about an hour later. The phenomena were experienced at the same times at Parma.

Con.—Why are doctors and lawyers women? Give it up? Because they are fee-males!

#### LITERARY NOVELTIES.

The Revolutionary Epick, by Disraeli the younger, A work on German Synonymes is preparing by an able

The Hevolutionary Epick, by Distact the Younger. A work on German Synonyme is preparing by an able linguist.

Mr. Montgomery announces a fourth edition of his poem, Satan, thoroughly revised, and with arguments prefixed to each book.

The Foreign Quarterly Review.—We had certainly read with more than the usual attention we are in the habit of giving even to the most striking articles in our best Reviews, a series of recent papers upon Foreign Policy, which have appeared in the Foreign Quarterly Revine; had found ourselves much informed and enlightened by them upon subjects with the merits of which we were previously, we confess, too little acquainted. The paper in the last No. on Modern Diplomacy particularly interested us; and justifies, what is a trae step on our parts, this notice of a contemporary periodical. It is with satisfaction we add, that the author of these Essays, the Hight Hon. T. Peregrine Courtenay has eccentrated diplomatist, Sir William Temple; though the situation of some of the original materials will telay the publication of this work until the next year.

## LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

Medica Sacra; or, Short Expositions of the more important Diseases mentioned in the Sacred Writings, by Thomas Shipter, M.D. post 8vo. 7s. bds.—A Letter relations of the Marian of the Poor in the Parish of Frome Selwood, in Somersetshire, 8vo. 3s. 6d. cloth.—Hymns for the lifting up of the Hearts of God's People, Bimo. 3s. sheep.—Dr. Willcolke's System of Arithmetical and Mental Calculations, 3d edition, revised, 12mo. 5s. bds.—Jacobite Relics, 8vo. 10s. 6d. bds.—An Encyclopædia of Geography, by Hugh Murray, Part I. to be completed in 12 Monthly Parts) 5s. sewed.—Loudon's Encyclopædia of Gorgaphy, and Hugh Murray, Part I. to be completed in 12 Monthly Parts) 5s. sewed.—Loudon's Encyclopædia of Gorgaphy, and 4m proved edition, Parts I. to IV. 8vo. sewed, 2s. 6d. each.—Graham's Letter to the Traders and Carriers, 3d edition, 4to. 3s. 6d. sewed.—Sketches in Spain during 1829, 30, 31, and 32, by Captain Cook, 2 vols, 8vo. 2ls. bds.—The Hamiltons; or, the New Era, by the author of "Mothers and Daughters," 3 vols. post 8vo. 18. 11s. 6d. bds.—Spirit of Peers and People, a National Tragi-Comedy, by the Author of an "Exposition of the False Medium," 12mo. 5s. bds.—A Descriptive Catalogue of Rare and Unedited Roman Coins, with numerous Plates, by J. V. Akerman, F.S.A. 2 vols. 8vo. 28. 12s. 6d. cloth; royal 8vo. 44. 4s. cloth.—A brief Explication of the Paalms, by the Rev. Dr. Dickson, 2 vols. 12mo. 12s. bds.—The Art of Heraldry, 18mo. 3s. 6d. cloth.—Bunyan's Pilgrim, metrically condensed in Six Cantos,—I is to but justice to say, also, that at a late meeting of

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## METEOROLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1834,

February.	Th	Thermometer.				Barometer.		
Thursday 20				51.			30-09	
Friday · · · · 21		41.		49.	30.05		30.00	
Saturday 22	****	37.		50.	29.89		30.09	
Sunday 23		41.	0.0	51.	30.31		30.13	
Monday 24		43.		51.	30.14		30.23	
Tuesday 25		36.		49.	30.33		30.35	
Wednesday 26		28.		51.	30.35		30.25	

Wind S.W. Cloudy, with rain at times on the 23d and 94th; other-wise generally clear.

February.	Thermometer.				Barometer.		
Thursday 27	From	30.	to	53.	30.09	to	30.06
Friday 28	****	42.	• •	51.	30.05	**	30-12
Saturday 1		44.		53.	30-14		30.19
Sunday 2		42.		53.	30-25		30.29
Monday 3		43.		53.	30.31		30.25
Tuesday 4		42.		52.	30.10		29.97
Wednesday 5		46.		57.	29.74		29.50

Wind, S.W. Rain fallen, '1 of an inch. Except the 2d, 3d, and 4th, generally cloudy; rain at

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

Extracts from a Meteorological Register kept at High Wycombe, Bucks, by a Member of the London Meteoro-logical Society. January 1834. Thermometer—Highest····· 54·25°··the 23d.

ermometer—Hignest 282 - the 284 29th.

Lowest 28 - 29th.

Mean 42:32056

Barometer—Highest 30:13 the 2d

Lowest 28:41 12th.

Mean 29:47032

Number of days of rain, 26. Quantity of rain in inches and decimals, 3·53125. Winds.-0 East-6 West-0 North-2 South-1 North-st...7 South-east-13 South-west...2 North-west.

east—7 South-east—13 South-west—2 North-west.

General Observations.—The month was distinguished by extraordinary warmth and humidity, the quantity of rain being more than double the average for the last five years in the same month, and exceeded only by Jan. 1829 in the last eleventy easts; the control of the property of the last eleventy easts in the last eleventy easts; the control of last year, and twelve degrees higher than the means of the means of the month for ten years. The barometer was low as regards the extremes, but much lower with respect to the mean, which was below any in the same period. Lunar halos were observed on the nights of the 18th, 29d, and 25th, on the first of which nights Jupiter appeared within the circle.

## TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"To CORRESPONDENTS.

"" Though we have this week, as the saliors say, a full and flowing sheet, we are unable to keep up with the activity of publication at this season. Four novels have appeared within the last few days; and we have several works by us which have required more leisure than we have yet had it in our power to bestow upon them. Among the number are, Scrope's Political Economy, a clear and clever volume; the first of Martins able and laborious History of the British Conlest, Dr. Blewings Deontology, from Bentham's MSS; and sunconclusions. The provided sequels and conclusions.

conclusions.

May we take the liberty, in mentioning these sheets of enlarged size, (a resort in order to render our epitome more like what we have wished it to be, in neglecting no feature of the times,) to advise our readers to bestow a little pains in cutting them open. They will then find them quite right for binding, like the rest, into a convenient annual volume.

weinet annual volume.

Cunningham's Ode to Sculpture, though it contains some good lines, is, on the whole, too trite for admission.

X. Y. Z. will be used in good time.

The Natingal Gallery of Practical Science is alluded to in our remarks on the new National Gallery; but this is a fitting time to add, that its other architectural models, &c., by Mr. Day, form one of the most pleasing and attractive lounges in the metropolis. It is another of the places we can heartily recommend for a visit during the Easter holydays.

Many Communications received too late; our correspondents cannot blame us.

ERRATA.—In our drama articles last week, p. 126, or spondents cannot blame us.

ERRATA.—In our drama articles last week, p. 126, or "it is the national," read "it is the practice of the national;" same col. 1. 49-3, for "in a disposition," read "indisposition;" and at 1. 56, for "Senee," read

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